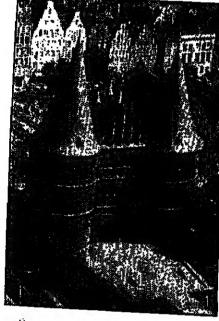
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The German Tribune

nburg, 20 March 1983

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Kohl intent on occupying 'the middle ground'



Fords often lose their meaning in expolitics, politics being what it is, sometimes phrases emerge which we to be taken at nearer to face

ind", was used by Chancellor Kohl in election slogan. It was used to the sting out of the accusation that Kohl/Genscher government is a fel of right wingers".

Political middle ground" has virby become part of Chancellor il's political programme. It is ined to make it clear where the coalistands in the political spectrum.

represents a denial that the governt will take an extreme line, particuin foreign policy, where it wants to ged carefully.

is is important because of the natof decisions still to be made in the
of security. Controversies have not
dest because the election is over.

prevent any tension Bonn will
most care in Ostpolitik and

is is not only because of the contipromised by the government but to counter accusations that it will political tension to emerge in

al Europe.

an's new government will have to that it is open to further cooperawith the GDR and with the Eastern countries in general.

an may well come across similar ests for such cooperation, with the

e GDR is also worried about posstrains which might hamper coation with the Federal Republic, cularly in the economic field. It well be interested in reaching specgreement with its neighbour so that I "last the winter" in case new tenwere to emerge.

Bonn government will have to this out soon. The time left for pretonary measures in East-West relais short; the question of stationing lies will be coming to a head in au-

pere is now no doubt that both in its of home policy and foreign policy Kohl government would prefer the iles not to be stationed.

nce the Nato double-decision over iles and negotiation does not look istic, the Kohl government is also ocaling a compromise solution.

his week, Italy's Foreign Minister, lio Colombo, put forward in Washon the European desire for such a promise.

is emphasised that he was speaking behalf of all those countries planning to station the missiles, i. e. Britain, ltaly, and the Federal Republic of Germany.

However, it is precisely this compromise will cause trouble for the German government.

For many, such a compromise solution will mean negotiations leading to a certain reduction of the Soviet missile potential threatening Europe and a postponement, if not stop to armament in the West.

However, the compromise solution regarded as reasonable by the Nato is one in which although the Soviet weapon systems are reduced number of medium-range weapons planned for Europe will be reduced in number but eventually deployed.

At present there are no signs that the Soviet Union would be willing to accept such a compromise.

It is only then willing to reduce its medium-range missile potential if the West agree to completely renounce further armament.

This could be classified as a Sovietstyle "zero option".

Recently, it has also become apparent that the Soviet Union is considering including a whole series of other socurity arrangements as conditions for their willingness to cut down its arms build-

This would increase the number of topics under discussion in negotiations and even raise the time factor involved, possibly a fact of which the Soviet Union is aware.

For although Moscow may have realised that it has not been able to directly influence the opinion of German voters by intervening in the election campaign, it may now wish to wait and see if the western governments in fact have the nerve to continue armament.

If this is the case things are preplanned to politically come to a head between the East and the West in au-

This is beyond doubt a dangerous negotiating concept.

The Soviets would therefore not regard the renunciation of the "zero option" by the West as an opportunity to seek realistic negotiation solutions but take advantage of the situation to increase pressure.

Getting down to details

Gaston Thorn, President of the EEC Commission, welcomed to Bonn by Chancellor Kohl, The meeting was to lay groundwork for the meeting this month in Brussels of the European Council.

This could lead to compulsive reactions on both sides.

Under such circumstances, the ability of the German government to influence the course of events could be extremely limited,

At present, it would not be advisable for the Federal Republic to try and emphasise the extent of its influence on the negotiations between the two superpowers, for this may lead to it's being put under pressure.

For this reason, Bonn will want to leave most of the responsibility up to the superpowers.

It will not be easy to maintain this course since the debate on the missile question will definitely continue at home and the government will be required to provide answers.

This course can only be taken if it is convincingly linked to confidence in American negotiating activities in Geneva.

This represents a new responsibility, for the government in Washington.

It would be dangerous to sit back now that an apparently pro-American government has been elected in Bonn.

Washington must show that Bonn's, confidence is justified by clearly demonstrating that if negotiations should fail, it has done its utmost to guarantee

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of hope that better times

are around the corner

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Six years jall for mother
who shot in vengeance

Soviet Union takes a harder line

Moscow says it will be forced to move medium-range missiles cluser to the United States if cruise missiles are deployed in central Europe.

The Kremlin realises that President Reagan's position has been strengthened by the conservative election win in the Federal of Germany. And it intends taking a harder line.

This sounds threatening. Are party leader Yuri Andropov and his military advisors toying with the idea of a new Cuba crisis?

This is hardly imaginable, but they are clearly flexing their muscles. The campaign against the USA can be expected to escalate.

The Soviets are hoping to gain concessions from those who are most frightened.

Proposals to include the Baltic Sea in a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, as but forward by Soviet disarmament? expert General Nikola Gjervov on Swedish TV, must be seen within this context.

He referred to the possibility of withdrawing the six Soviet nuclear submarines which are claimed to be stationed in this area.

And yet it is an open secret that the submarines can be easily tracked down, by Western defence systems in these relatively shallow waters.

This means that in an emergency they would have to withdrawn fast, anyway, to avoid being destroyed,

The latest words of praise for the Greens in the Federal Republic reveal that the Kremin still hopes, with the help of the peace movements in Westonian Continued on page 2



WORLD AFFAIRS

Kohl victory greeted by Nato and the Alliance

The sighs of relief in Washington and London over Helmut Kohl's election victory are much greater than diplomatic discretion allows.

Even the socialists in France approve, although not quite as strongly as the British or the Americans.

But Nato's secretary general, Josef Luns, did not mince words. His reaction was one of "joy and satisfaction."

Yet despite this, the questions of the Atlantic Alliance in general and the missiles in particular played a minor

The SPD's national business manager, Peter Glotz, explained the conservative success by saying that the voters had been most impressed by the Aulschwung (Upswing) slogan they had

All other issues were secondary to this economic message, despite the efforts of the shadow chancellor, Hans-Jochen Vogel, to get the Americans to get things moving at the missile talks in

Kohl is particularly proud of the fact that he has already during his brief period in office been successfully able to close the ranks of the Alliance.

Has Kohl's election saved the Alliance? Even the Chancellor himself in his hours of contemplation will not agree that things are quite that simple.

In the field of Bonn's security policy Kohl has had to take on some explosive legacies from his Social Democrat predecessors, which are in no way "home-

This does not only apply to the missile question. US Defence Secretary, Caspar Weinberger, is now more than ever likely to step up his demands on Western Europe to keep pace with American defence spending levels.

He would like to see Western Europe relieve the US military forces of some of its obligations in Europe so that America can better fulfil its more global tasks, tasks set by the Reagan Adminis-

However, since all German governments, regardless of their party-political colouring, are limited in their means, the Kohl team will find it by no means,

Harder line

The Russians also want a ban on the bombs which can be delivered by Ame-

sponds to the nuclear weapons owned by all states.

fact that the Soviet Union is trying to is willing to grant others.

this objective. Josef Pieskowsky:

(Nordwest Zeitung, 11 March 1983)



easier to push through a defence budget catering for all of Washington's desires.

Even with a Christian Democrat Chancellor, the Defence departments will find it extremely difficult to pay off the large number of modern yet very expensive weapon systems ordered by ex-Defence Minister Georg Leber.

Above-average defence spending, on the other hand, would mean that a great deal of the money needed for the proclaimed Aufschwung, which is to be encouraged by tax reliefs for investors, for example, will then flow into the less productive business of storing weapons.

Although not too keen on turning into an energetic protector of German interests within the Alliance, Kohl must bear in mind his own interests if his growth objectives are threatened.

This has already been made clear by the CDU/CSU-FDP coalition in Bonn during its period in office up to now.

It was resolute in its opposition to the American request that Germany should help sinance the withdrawal of American GI garrisons from the problematic West German conurbations and their transfer to the Eastern border areas.

here's one thing we now know for

sure: the most important aspect of

Finally, the conservative German-American honeymooning will not be encouraged if now that the German election is over the Geneva missile talks - yet-again become the centre of atten-

If the promise claimed again and again by by the Alliance that the Soviets will only be willing to compromise if the West shows its determination to stution all 572 new medium-range missiles holds true, the election result in Bonn should contribute towards greater mo-

bility in Geneva.
The question is, however, whether President Reagan feels tempted to stick to a tough line, even if a further offer is made by Moscow.

This would certainly be in the interests of Franz Josef Strauss who is on his way to Bonn.

He has never been one for beating about the bush and openly states that would have preferred the Nato double-resolution adopted in December 1979 to have done without a negotiating part: station the missiles and that's that! However, Kohl has shown that this

all-or-nothing approach is not part of Yet now that Kohl has received the

electoral mandate he will sooner or later have to face up to the fact that he also has the job of a German "go-getter" during his visits to Washington.

At least some kind of interim result to negotiations in Geneva, with armament kept at a lower level, and brought about with Kohl's help, may help improve his image at home.

For even Helmut Kohl will at some stage show first signs of strain.

Felix Hartlieb (Nümberger Nachrichten, & March 1933)

Tass: more harmenes than bite Election throws up basic

The Soviet newsagency of warned Chuncellor Kohla lowing American missiles to h ed in the Federal Republic The day after Chancellor

proposed installation of the would turn Germans of the Fa public into hostages of the land to the public into hostages of the land turn Germans of the Fa public into hostages of the land turn Germans of the Fa public into hostages of the land turn Germans of the land tur Defence Department.

A lasting power structure seems to The past few weeks have a

clear that Kohl isn't exactly be smerged out of a situation of crisis cellor Moscow would have like disansition.

However, they know wis bullish stockmarket and the congratuportant, too.

portant, too. The Federal Republic is the country is getting back on an even Union's most important westered — at least in the classical areas of partner. This fact has an impossippolitik.

Soviet Foreign Minister Ariflathe story: apart from the two city-myko only recently said he hantes (Bremen and Hamburg) the con-ment would also show interestingles, and that includes the Social De-rishing relationship.

This would indicate the link.

This would indicate the listingly, proach which the Kremiin willting Bayaria and Baden-Wärttemberg, One reason for Moscow's heir Social Democrats have become virpuffing is anger at having mist should be inderest nave become vir-situation. But there is no causing the conservatives made deep inroads

The his the Social Demogratic voter poten-(Hannoversche Allsemeine imal, when many blue collar workers, nearheaded by semi-skilled and uned labour, changed sides in their

Does this mean that we say the state of our sovering the election outcome has nothing to Even if we were to attempt of a long development that would break", this would lead to say brought about the change in 1980 it not been Franz Josef Strauss who

he SPD has been weakened over a

A comment on the aspect of shood of many years and its vigour as a billty. Of course, the German strong party has been supped, ment can develop more "also in the final phase of Helmut policies backed by a clear party smidtle chancellorship, the SPD had ry majority.

Yet such calculability ough skiw 30 per cent, But this fact was lead to a drying-up of alternative scloked when the party-closed ranks this would pave the way for the skind Vogel.

In this sense, the new governs after last autumn's change of gobonn should waste no time in a first last autumn's change of gobonn should waste no time in a first last autumn's change of gobonn should waste no time in a first last autumn's change of gobonn should waste no time in the final phases of the cambinative is above all the governs and the final phases of the cambinative in SPD as a national party to its stitle of 1965.

(Decuches Aligencles See Whit's finote, in the state assemblies in its rise after the war, the party is

pan its rise after the war, the party is

The German Wribut The conservatives now reign supreme Publisher Friedrich Resecte Estoris of the municipalities and the Bundesrat.

Home Estor. Alexander Ashbory Estate Subty provide the nation's president and speaker of the Bundestag.

Osorgon Piccos.

Friedrich Redricts Vering Groot 22 Scientiff Even though the Prec Democrats are in the cabinet - more on less as an pament Germany has become a leg of the CDU/CSU in terms of wer and parliamentary majorities,

And Helmut Kohl, "Adenauer's andson", has become the dominant The a Chancellor with a clear man-

" Walter the May Labours Kohi prevailed over Strauss (who was dermined to hold elections immediaafter the October shange of government with the intention of climinating the FDP), bringing about the March election even against reservations by the Free Democrats.

power structure changes

He accepted the responsibility of facing the voters with an unpopular emergency programme; he even weathered the constitutional dispute over the dissolution of the Bundesing, coming out

He also survived his about-face halfway through the campaign on the surtax imposed on higher income brackets when he decided that this should not be repayable after all.

The role luck and coincidence played in the election outcome is debatable. What today looks like an elegant sidestep could well have been a plain stumble - as in the case of the repayability of the surtax which had been agreed on in the original coalltion deal.

It can also be argued that the Chancellor's image, compared with that of his challenger, was not all that bright. All that matters is that Kohl was proved right in his assessment of voter attitu-

He risked a great deal and came out the winner with the second-best election result in the CDU's history. Still, he did not quite get the absolute majority. This has enabled him to continue the coalition with the PDP, which he has always wanted anyway.

He needs the Free Democrats in order to secure CDU rule in the long run and to keep the CSU in check.

Kohl banked on a well-established experience in this country: governments here are almost never toppled by elections, particularly new governments.

Though many people were outraged at the manner in which last year's change of government was brought about, they were rather relieved about the change itself; and they confirmed this in the polling after the emotions had subsided.

Like Willy Brandt in 1972, Kohl now profited from the fact that the people felt that it was time to give the new men

Another decisive factor was the fact that the conservatives put the emphasis in the campaign on the fields in which they were strongest and the SPD weakcst, at least in the eyes of the public.

They campaigned with economic and fiscal issues and were helped in this by the business community's massive sup-

Whenever business associations came up with statements it was to the effect

Middle ground

Continued from page 1 Europe's security without risking further escalation.

be faced, it would could true it all only

that only the centre-right government could bring about an upswing.

As it happens, nobody in this country can in the long run govern against the wishes of the business community, nor can anybody win an election against

This is particularly so in times of economic crises and when economic indicators seem to confirm the incumbent government's policy.

This time there was nothing that would have side-tracked the voter's attention from the economic issues, unlike in 1972 when the public was fasci-

The missiles issue, which boiled down to vague fears and apprehensions, had no major impact on the outcome of the election, Moreover, Kohl defused this issue by saying that there was no reason why there should be no interim solution. He said the government did not insist on an either/or policy.

What mattered even more than personalities and issues was that the conservatives managed to convince the electorate of the alternatives hope; and stability on the one side and uncertainty on the other.

In a nutshell, they confronted the electorate with the option of choosing either an upturn or what they called the "Red/Green menace"....

.The conservatives offered the voters hope - frequently in cheap coinage and the voters bought it.

This was where the SPD was at its weakest. But oritics who said that the Social Democrats were wishy-washy towards the Greens, that they lacked toughness towards the conservatives and that their candidate marched into defeat with a noble and intellectual stance, miss the point.

None of this was decisive. The fact is that the SPD started to deteriorate in the mid-1970s and that this decline cannot be made good in a single election

Social, Democrats no longer have political visions. This had long been covered up; by Helmut Schmidt's style of government which eventually led to a situation in which the SPD was seen as a party that hampers its own Chancellor's policy.

Vogel bared this dilemma. He formulated a policy for thinking people, putting his emphasis more on asking questions than on drafting programmes. He was honest and true to himself and the problems that permit no easy answers. He did not present himself as a "harbinger of hope" but as a man who wanted to gear his party and the hation to the hard times ahead.

Though this is no way to win an election, Vogel gave his party a long term new foundation - not for a new Social Democratic vista but for a structure of solid answers to political problems.

It will take a long time before the SPD defines the political issues of this country and it will take even longer before it assumes power again. The pendulum of German politics swings slowly and it would take an exceptional situation for the SPD to capture a new majoa study set to a digital and the first

In any event, the political front line lil Bonn has changed drastically. The SPD has become a critical but rather important accompaniment to Bonn nolities, which are now drafted by the Kohl-Genscher-Strauss troika

There will be a high stakes poker game in progress during the couple of weeks before the Buildestag elects the new chancellor. 10: 5-11:

Will Strauss be in and if so what port-folio is open to him? The foreign office, for one thing, is closed to him.



Chancellor Kohl ... the dominant figu-(Photo: Sven Simon)

Kohl has promised this to Genscher, who staked his political career to bring about the change in Bonn.

Will Strauss try to unseat Gerhard Stoltenberg from the Finance Ministry? Amid all this speculation, there is one thing that seems certain: the FDP will lose one portfolio.

The next few weeks will decide whether Kohl, the winner of the election. will remain firmly in control. Ludwig Erhard (in 1965) serves as much as a warning as does the case of Willy Brandt in 1972.

The CSU will pay a tough hand; but there is also the fact that the FDP cannot afford to make many concessions if it is to emphasize its government role.

What is to happen to the surtax? Is it to be repaid or not? This was an issue with which both the conservatives and the FDP wooed voters and won. The dispute over this issue might have been a clover strategy in the campaign, but now the matter has become a stumbling block for the coalition in general and he Chancellor in particular.

There are no major alternatives clashing in the coalition negotiations; but there are variations on the conservative theme: variations represented respecti-

vely by Blum, Lambsdorff and Strauss. Anybody wanting to influence Bonn politics in the next few years will have to choose between these variations. There can be no doubting that the voters wanted the change; but how far did they want this change to go? They voted for hope, economic upturn and security. But are these voters still the citizens of the 1950s and is this state still the state of that era?

Neither the centre-right coalition nor the opposition can fall back on the traditions of the past. Lifestyles and problems have changed in the past 30

The new problems (unemployment even when there is growth and the missile deployment, which the majority of the public still rejects) have not disappeared with the change of government.

It is time now for the government to tackle everyday problems without ideology and in a conservative spirit that leaves room for liberalism and will answer rather than steamroller over the questions Vogel posed.

True enough, we are now a country governed by the conservatives; but they don't own the nation.

Rolf Zundel rolling of the la-(Die Zeit, Il March (983)

Continued from page 1

tern Europe, to keep the modern US missiles at a safe distance from the So-

rican long-range bombers. "Soviet strategy is ultimately to own a nuclear potential which roughly corres

The main issue in the whole missile debate can be reduced to the simple gain a greater security for itself than it

The primary maxim of Soviet policy at present is to distract attention from

the German election was not the vote for the new government. We voted for "security", said Quotidien de Paris; to "strengthen" the Alliance, sald Nato Secretary-General Luns; and "cleared the runway for the

missiles" said the Daily Mail, London. What is more, we didn't vote against Hans-Jochen Vogel and the SPD but against the head of the Kremlin, Yuri

Andropov, said La Suisse, Geneva. In the eyes of President Mitterrand the election on the Rhine was more important than his own municipal elec-

The head of the Italian Christian Democrat party, De Mita, claimed Kohl's triumph to be a "victory for the whole

of western democracy," Of course, some feel differently:

In the opinion of Poland's Trybuna Ludy the German voter is quite simply "disoriented and numbed." The French communist daily, L. Humanité, has a clear idea of the teal victor in Bonn: "The champions of reactionary thinking and those who have dulled the minds of

the masses. " apply it There are plenty of half-baked and polemic statements in the foreign press, some of them continuing the involvement in German affairs shown before the election: a mixture of friend and

Yet only a few commentaries are as to-the-point as that by the Washington Post which feels that the Germans have cast their votes for the Atlantic Alliance and not for American policies.

There's a big difference here. This American newspaper is quite right, however, even if many an election

How foreigners viewed the election

campaigner has tried his best to blur the

After all, the distorted image of Germany as reflected in the foreign press

commentaries must have its reasons. West Germany, the unreliable cor-neratone of the Western Alliance, the spectre of neutralism, the Christian Democrate as procurers of missiles and cold war heroes.

Such attributes are not only voiced in Washington's Defence Department or

Moscow's Kremlin. There is no doubt about the fact that the German image abroad is determined by our attitude towards missiles and the Alliance.

Most foreign newspapers tend to ignore the other burning issues of the day in Germany: mass unemployment, recession, questions relating to environmental protection.

Instead, at least this is how the Spanish newspaper ABC views it: "Europe's healthy common-sense (personified by Germanyl) has gained a victory over neutralistic tendencies and desires for expropriation."

It would be too easy just to dismiss such statements and generalisations put forward by our neighbours with a mere "why-should-that-bother-me" shrug of the shoulders.

For they too are an expression of

hopes and expectations, positive or ne-

gative, directly affecting our policies.

The "missile election," all not been Franz Josef Strauss who not, is a boomersng which at his many enemies even in the conscrions after the 6 March electionary examp.

been forgotten.

Printed by Oruck- und Verlegsheus Reight M British Blumenshel Distributed in the USA II MAILINGS, and S40 West 24th Street, New In-ICO15 If arbeing which the GERALLY THEUE An article virticit the Lie haster in adem published in spopulation with the adea Republication of the Fadera Republicy They are consisted translations of the or no tray abridged not additionally redigited.

Clarity in America's negotiating posttion is also a prerequisite for the chances of Kohl's government coming to terms with the strains with which it will

Bonn will have to continue seeking the largest possible consensus basis at home: the first per man a first staff.

(Der Tagessplegel, 13 March 1983)

he general election is being describ-L ed as the largest shift of voters in 25 years. It might seem to be, but the truth is not so spectacular.

Polling results, in fact, fell within the normal voting patterns.

There is a rump of conservative voters. In 1957, the conservatives claimed 42.7 per cent of those eligible to vote. That bloc has not changed since.

Special factors such as the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, the ossification of the political system (Grand Coalition in 1969) and controversial chancellorship candidates (Strauss in 1980) did little more than prevent the potential followers from actually voting

But when this type of factor does not exist, the conservatives manage to rally

In view of this situation, the CDU/ CSU did not even need to capture new potential voters after the shift of government last autumn. Their campaign was therefore directed at rallying their existing followers to the greatest possible extent

There was no need for any careful selection of campaign issues nor was there a need for an claborate strategy.

The style and strategy of the CDU/ CSU campaign was confirmed when 18,997,186 voters voted conservative.

This success was made possible by the full exploitation of the CDU/CSU's follower potential. The fact is that the CDU/CSU did not need to capture any

It therefore follows that the conservative voters potential did not increase on 6 March. There is also nothing to substantlate the wide-spread contention that there is a conservative trend.

... The Social Democrats have always been troubled by the problem that the number of classical Social Democratic voters, mostly belonging to organised labour, have never been enough to give them a majority.

The SPD has therefore always had to try and rally additional support - it mostly succeeded.

The Social Democrats thus managed gradually to increase their following. In 1949, their follower potential was about 22.2 per cent of eligible voters. By 1972, this had risen to 41.2 per cent. This doubling of the potential was made possible by the fact that the SPD. through its work in municipal and local politics, had gained the public's confidence and was increasingly regarded as being competent in many political

Plausible programmes and initiatives that coincided with the interests of the people (Ostpolitik in 1972) helped the SPD gain majorities in State assemblies and the Bundestag."

But the Social Democrats have been losing ground since 1972. By 1980 their share of eligible voters had dwindled to 37.6 per cent (16 million).

In the elections after the October 1980 national election the party was unable to fully exploit even this shrunken potential. In the Lower Saxony state the SPD captured only 68 per cent of its potential and, in Hamburg, 72 per cent.

The circumstances under which the change of government last year took place were instrumental in bringing about the SPD's success in Hesse and Bavaria (88 per cent of the potential each) and in Hamburg on 19 December 1982 (94 per cent). The party had hoped that the 6 March national election would at least enable it to hold its 1980

The hopes was dashed. It turned out that the SPD had only about 15 million THE ELECTION

Voting patterns indicate swing was not so great

followers on 6 March. That is about one-third of the eligible voters.

The SPD is thus back to a share of voters corresponding to the position at the beginning of the 1960s.

This was not due to an abrupt loss of favour with the voters. It was a gradual development that set in close to 15 years ago on the municipal plane. The reasons for this were:

The loss of the SPD's municipal base (five out of 12 major cities how have conservative mayors), the increasing estrangement between local party organisations and the electorate, the diminishing opportunity for workers to make themselves heard within the party, the SPD's derision of typical middle class alues (performance at work, consumer attitudes, etc.) and wrong responses to changes in the structure of voters.

In 1972, 1976 and 1980, these negative trends were offset by the popularity of the incumbent chancellors (Willy Brandt and Helmut Schmidt).

But this time neither the apparently closed ranks of the SPD after I October 1982 nor a good chancellorship candidate were enough to make the voters overlook the deep rift within the party.

The structural crisis of the SPD ripped it of a chance of catching up with the conservatives in the course of the campaign. In fact, the SPD was not even able to fully rally its own suppor-

Even disenchantment with the CDU/ CSU campaign did not enable the SPD to get all its backers to the polling sta-

It will never be known whether it is true that 1.6 million SPD followers went to the CDU/CSU on March 6. What is known is that five million eligible voters made use of their right not to vote. This is typical of the SPD, whose followers have always preferred to abstain rather than switch sides.

The FDP and the Greens were more successful on 6 March in their bid for voters who are not committed to the conservative camp.

The FDP, which has never had a dependable bloc of voters, was able to capture enough non-conservative vo-

Social Democratic hopes of getting the votes of many former social-liberal FDP followers did not materialise. After all, why should a voter who in 1980, 1976 and 1972 opted for the FDP as a watchdog over the SPD cast his ballot for the social democrats in 1983?

The likely explanation is that - like before — many voters again wanted a watchdog, no matter what the policy

The electorate thus seems to have made the FDP an integral part of federal politics in Germany, regardless of programmes, problems, candidates and party constellations. The FDP's campaign issues played next to no role in this decision.

The Greens were also made an integral part of the German party landscape

Their surprisingly large follower potential, estimated at 1.8 million eligible voters nationwide, did not come as a surprise. What did come as a surprise was that they managed to convert this potential into votes in the election.

On 19 December 1982, in the Hamburg polling, the full potential of Green followers (about 90,000) was rallied only in the elections to district councils. The simultaneous election to the Hamburg assembly gave the Greens only

Some 70,000 votes. But on 6 My THE ECONOMY

The SPD will have to ask her ther it drew a clear enough in campaign between itself Greens. The party had hoped ing the Greens half-way in so programmes would capture to environmentalist votes.

The point is that in Hambas the centre-right government in Bonn the SPD drew a clear line, 1600, now has both the time and the comtial Green voters did not on distalled parliamentary majority it needs party on 19 December 1982, of implement the economic and social months later, their attitude he blicles it drafted in the autumn. It can so unhampered by the usual cam-

The outcome of the general sign promises because none were has firmly established the Great fourth (or third, depending on Attention in the next few years will looks at it) political force in the centred on the consolidation of the Republic of Germany — and lidget and on putting the social securiplies to all levels of government system on an even keel financially.

In the major cities, the Grantine envisaged change in the income tax wers come from middle distincture will have to be set aside until They usually have a contract the seconomic situation improves.

They usually have a good disconomic situation improves. and their values can be desti Work in the coming legislative period post-materialistic. post-materialistic.

The Greens are bound to suit and fiscal planning: The portance in municipal election in the portance in the the voting turnout is always Poll: green light than in national elections).

They barely need to campain classical sense because their decisions communications structure mi monly held values are more the election victory of the centre-than posters in rallying votes in right coalition has relieved busiing them into State assemblies pessmen of one major uncertainty.

They know now that the next four The voters opted for a four priesrs will be marked by a free enterpritem on 6 March, and the coard policy and that the existing difficuland the Greens now stand this will be tackled in a spirit of "more chance of carving out stable with tarket and less state."

The PDP's watchdog's role in This has removed the political reservations.

much less use to that party on matter made businessment put in-municipal levels than it is in westments on ice. The ice has melted

And the Social Democrats will There are clear indications that many tough time recapturing lost conditions that were placed subject to the as evidenced in the Rhineland Median outcome (though naturally to election that coincided with the indicated spelling this out) will now be firely election. ral election.

Statements to this effect have been (Die Zeit, 1) to dealer in construction machinery and a car dealer.

for investment

One firm of management consultants - If for no other reason became that had been tentatively commissioned. The credit department of a major pri-

ing can work without us anymore polling.

nothing can work against us."

The next days will show the polling instances or a trend.

the CSU will be able to with interch statistics on orders will tell the

whose investments are much more There is also the fact that not externed by political moves than those body in Strauss' own parises imajor companies. The political left, which had spoken There are those whose symptom an investment strike during the cammore with Kohi and Genscher. It was a bound to revert to this issue

In his waning years, Adensed that businessmen and the self-emsaid that it is particularly different who account for only ten per form a government after a resolution the working population, wanted his government and voted for it as was Granted, the centre-right good right. It is also their good camp still has many a problem with it onew place the orders which with in drafting a programme as the previously held back due to what y considered a political risk.

The Social Democrats are to be this is not so much a matter of boost-Brandt or a Schmidt party (1998) the coalition partners as of commer-they never really were) but a total considerations. This is not only a sunited party of factions. how government.

handle the major questions by spending cutbacks. Over a period of tion of pure savings acounts. It remains several years, spending increases are to be limited to one to two per cent less than the nominal growth of the GNP. This would mean that expenditures in 1984 should amount to about DM260bn. The restriction of spending is to be continued until the structural deficit (in other words that part of the

developments) has been removed.

How the government is likely to

 Taxation: There is still an unspent residue of DM4bn available from the increase of VAT. Some of this money is to be used to further reduce taxes that not profit-related. The main beneficiaries are to be small and medium companies. A somewhat smaller portion of this amount is to provide tax relief for socalled "half families" (mostly divorced people) in line with a Constitutional Court ruling. Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg has made it quite clear that any reduction in the income tax rate will be contingent on fiscal development. As a result, this must be seen as an open issue to be dealt with in the

• Capital accumulation: The government intends to waste no time presenting a blueprint for this issue. There is general consensus that the range of subsidised savings provided for under the 3rd Capital Accumulation Act (the socalled DM624 Law) should be extended to include direct capita participation in the employer company. This is to be given priority over the promo-

open whether the amount eligible for subsidies will be raised from the present DM624 to DM936. The final decision here will depend on the cost of the scheme to the government. • Shorter working lives: Govern-

ment plans to provide a legal framework for shorter working lives that deficit that is unaffected by economic would enable the parties to collective bargaining to make a deal on this issue are also part of overall policy. But it should prove difficult to reconcile the blueprints that have become known so far with overall government policy. The legal framework that would enable the parties to collective bargaining to arrive at an agreement on early retirement would have to be drafted in such a way as to put no additional strain on the taxpayer - neither through higher taxes nor through additional contributions to the social insurance funds.

> • Social security pensions: One of the government's most urgent projects is to hammer out legislation aimed at consolidating the pensions system. Due to high unemployment and low growth rates, the Pension Fund is likely to find itself with a DM7bn deficit in 1984. There is talk of further cutbacks in pensions and an eventual increase of contributions from the working population from 18.5 to 19 per cent. Contributions are already due to rise from 18 to 18.5 per cent as of 1 September 1983. Due to the difficult financial position of the Pension Fund, the redrafting of the pro-

of deceased pensioners that must be implemented in 1984 and is therefore known as the "1984 reform" (in line with a Constitutional Court ruling) will bring only minor changes in favour of the insured. It remains open whether the government will implement the socalled "participation model" favoured by all political parties or whether it will seek some other solution. The participation model would provide the insured with a title to his pension. The originally envisaged coupling of the 1984 reform with an improvement in the social security provisions for women (that would regard child-rearing years as pald-up contribution years) will have to shelved temporarily for reasons of

visions for pensions for the next-of-kin

• Health insurance: Due to the additional strain increased contributions to the Pension Fund (possibly unemployment insurance) will cause, Labour Minister Norbert Blum intends to go out of his way to cut back on costs in the health sector. He not only wants to keep health insurance contributions at their present level but actually wants to reduce them to ease the strain social security contributions impose on the workers' pocketbooks. Legislation to limit hospital costs (where the increases have been steepest) could be passed in the course of this year.

 Housing construction: The Bonn Housing Ministry will concentrate its efforts on new provisions to promote housing construction through tax relief. The idea is to make private investment in housing construction more attractive and to promote home ownership, Among the more long-term projects in the housing sector are reforms on rent subsidies next year that would mitigate the effects of rising rents.

Jürgen Forster/Hans Barbier (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 8 March 1983)

surprisingly large number of voters Ain the general election decided to give the Kohl-Genscher government the go-ahead for the economic, fiscal and social policy course it charted in late

Judging by initial statements CDU, CSU and FDP made immediately after their election victory, they are determined to continue on their original course.

The yardsticks the nation will apply in assessing the future work of the centre-right government that has now been confirmed in office will be Helmut Kohl's state of the nation address of 13 December 1982 and the campaign statements of the parties making up the go-

The government's supply-side free enterprise policy will remain under scrutiny and will have to prove itself.

The government pins its hopes primarily on the business community for which it wants to improve operating conditions to impart more growth and thus reduce unemployment. The main objective is to boost private investment.

The reduction of corporate tax unrelated to earnings, incentives for medium and small companies taking over firms that have gone or are about to go out of business, improved conditions for people intending to start a business and the new rent laws are all supporting measures in the bid to get the economy off the

.The beginning of 1984 will bring further tax relief for small and medium bu-

Said Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff immediately before the election: "Favourable framework conditions - and that includes making Performance of business the crucial factor

good past mistakes - are a must if consumers and investors are to regain their faith in the future; and this, in turn, is a must in overcoming the present crisis,"

But will the business community invest? "Election dates are no investment dates," Otto Wolff von Amerongen, president of the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DIHT), said just before the election regarding economic developments this year. We might do well to remember his words.

Even so, there is no denying the already visible upward trends in some sectors of industry (construction, automobiles, machinery). And in other secture with more optimism.

The improved predictability of the government's economic policy as a result of the election outcome is bound to make the business community optimistic rather than pessimistic.

But even should the economy get off the ground more swiftly than expected. there still remains a great deal for the new government to do.

The investment-promoting decisions of the past weeks, the start of the budget consolidation - especially by restricting this year's deficit to DM41bn --and the sinking interest rates as a result, coupled with declining oil prices, low

inflation rates and a sound current account are still no reason to go overboard with expectations for the future.

Mass unemployment is still with us and could get worse. Another source of headaches is the straits in which individual branches of industry find themselves - especially steelmakers and shipyards. Both government and industry will have to come up with some imaginative solutions here.

The government's maxim to give priority to individual responsibility and performance over state intervention as demanded by Count Lambsdorff should apply in the future as well,

The outcome of the election has made it clear that the majority of the people go along with the government's theory that "economic growth and new jobs can only come about through thrift and investment; industriousness and efficiency on the part of the citizen at large and the business community." (Gerhard Stoltenberg)

The electorate has also clearly rejected any kind of demand-side job programmes that would of necessity entail larger deficits, higher taxes and less buying power for the consumer.

The centre-right government is still convinced that "unemployment could be reduced markedly if there were a dependable medium term planning that would make providing more jobs commercial viable and that would improve job creating investment conditions." (Count Lambsdorff)

Reimar Fitzleff (Hamburger Abendblatt, 7 March 1983)

This election was similar to that of 1972; when the SPD unexpectedly won, in that there were many voters who were undecided until the very last

It was probably this that prompted Willy Brandt (who has experienced more political ups and downs than most other politicians) to say after the election that there have been times in the past few decades when the SPD was much worse off.

And many a thinking conservative is likely to have pondered amid all the victory celebrations the fact that only two-and-a-half years ago the CDU/ CSU had its worst election results since

It might well have been this memory that made Kohl say immediately after the election: "Starting from tomorrow,

Detailed analyses of the shifts of voters are likely to occupy party strategists and opinion pollsters for some time to

But one thing seems clear: the CDU and CSU have for the past 15 years had a pretty unchanged basic reservoir of sympathisers, amounting to about 46 per cent of eligible voters as against 40 per cent for the SPD.

But this can rise and fall when emotions run high. This was the case with the "Brandt election" in 1972 (due to Ostpolitik) and in the personalised con-

Eight years in power the likely outcome

frontation between Schmidt and Strauss

Emotions also ran high after the breakdown of the SPD/FDP coalition. The electorate's mood shifted in favour of a CDU/FDP combination.

Well over 50 per cent of the public felt that it was time for a change. They included large portions of the working class who now held that "the others" were more efficient in solving the nation's economic, fiscal and se

The SPD was weakened still further by the heavy support young voters gave to the Greens. The young are over-represented in the Green vote.

Memories of the past give the feeling that the government will stay in office for eight rather than four years.

But the same memories also indicate that those pessimistic Social Democrats who think that they have been swept out of power for the rest of the century

There will, of course, be a crystalisation process, primarily within the SPD

change in generation.

Helmut Kohl will be faced sale bank also reports that business has coalition of three in forming his ecked up. And even the *Igedo* fashion ment. The warnings from Mundal organisers reported that retailers right after the politing station with had wavered only a few days earwhen Franz Josef Strauss said: Her placed their orders on the day after the care was a said to be said to their orders on the day after the care was a said to be said to their orders on the day after the care was a said to be said to their orders on the day after the care was a said to the said

coalition negotiations because is, after all, still a force to be me the fact is that the examples listed with and will have to be given in the concern primarily medium sized

gely depends on what course of the orders start coming in.
the government plans.

But there is no getting away from the

election success. cating portfollos.

It was Vogel's great achieves

have made the party close ranks

Continued on page 9

(Frankfuner Aligemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 9 March 1983)

FINANCE

Stockmarkets give glimmer of hope that better times are around the corner

Stockmarkets have always been a good barometer by which to measure economic performance; and the stockmarkets of the Far East and, above all, the USA have been bullish since the beginning of the year.

Even though speculators tend to go overboard, the widespread optimism on German stock exchanges could have a positive effect on the economy as a whole and speed up the recovery that seems to be in the offing.

The frequently seen spectre of a major world-wide depression has now diminished, notwithstanding the fact that there are 30 million jobless in the 24 most important industrial countries - a sad record no matter how one looks at it.

But the job market has always been a late indicator. And this also applies to the Federal Republic of Germany where the February Jobless figure roso to more than 2.5 million.

Jobiessness will go down in the next few months for seasonal reasons rather than due to the beginning economic up-

Even so, the outlook has become

It is possible that the business community's mood is better than its actual situation at the moment. But the mood of investors and consumers happens to

be an economic factor in its own right.

Growing confidence that an upturn is just round the corner must boost the demand for plant and equipment, automobiles, housing and consumer goods. In any event, the spring trade fairs have recorded a brisk business in consumer

This favourable atmosphere is now being buttressed by increasingly positive economic indicators. Last year's current account closed with a DM7bn surplus in the red for three years. The growth of imports has been slight while exports have picked up considerably, improving the terms of trade for Germany's foreign trade.

Major uncertainties as to the development of world trade will prevent this year's export business from skyrocketing; but even so, the current account is likely to close with a surplus similar to that of 1982; saidul adi in thee, thursis

Due to the emphasis on capital goods in Germany's exports, this country's exports, this country's exports better than the overall development of world liade.

Still, the export business is not likely to provide any enormous impulses in the course of the year. This is due not close to eight, per cent nominally, and two per cent in real terms. This might not seem much at first glance, but a study by the HWWA Institute for Economic Research, Hamburg, shows that the volume of world trade shrank by another two per cent last year. This was only to the foreign countries and declining export orders from the Open nations but primarily to the lack of growth impulses from the rest of the industrial other two per cent last year. This was

in There are a number of favourable economic indicators for Germany. The rise in the consumer price index has for the first time in years dropped below gur per cent, And wholesale prices are below those of last year, non fee of or

Despite the VAT increase as of July, inflation this year is likely to be markedly below four per cent. This, in turnowill also lead to collective bargaining deals with pay increases of less than four per cent, as heralded by the Volkswagen pay deal, and a second

There are also some positive indicators regarding domestic demand. According to the Ifo Institute for Economic Research, the consumer is ready to buy again. This applies particularly to major purchases.

The vaunted crisis pessimism among consumers seems to be dissipating, as evidenced by declining savings quotus that inevitably go up in times of crisis.

While across-the-board industrial production continues to decline, the news from the construction industry is good. Declining mortgage rates and favourble price developments could soon turn housing construction into a buyer's market.

The outlook for the USA and Japan has also become much brighter. In any event, the latest speech by US Federal Reserve, Bank, President, Volcker, gave rise to cautious optimism on the development of interest rates.

Voicker made it quite clear that interest will continue to go down.

Another positive effect will come from the announcement that America's inflation rate - now about four per

Y ermany's export business is hiding

its light under a bushel. There is

hardly a forecast or a statement from

business associations and individual

businessmen that does not complain

about export uncertainties and that

does not play down the prospects for

All that is spite of the fact that Ger-

man exporters not only have done

much better in the past few years than

their competitors in similar industrial

nations. The outlook is also much better

than the export industry is propared to

This assessment is, in fact not even

based on the extremely favourable in-

flux of foreign orders - an influx that

cannot be overestimated as an indicator

of even better things to come.

Only incorrigible optimists can be dis-

appointed with last year's development

of exports. Though the second half of

1982 did not quite keep the first half's

promise, the influx of orders having di-

stabilised in the last months of the year.

Granted, the filling of old orders

outstripped the influx of new ones; but

the order books are still so full as to

All in all, last year's exports, rose by

make a new crisis unlikely,

frade as to diminishing trade in indus-

This makes it obvious that German

business community has strengthened

its position on world markets - per-

haps not with every product, but cer-

This view coincides with a survey

made by the German Chamber of Com-

merce and Industry (DIHT) with contract

The survey shows that the reason bu-

sindsamen are cautious in their assess-

tainly across the board manier at

ninished as early as the spring, things

the coming months.

- will continue to go down this

Industrial prices already declined by one per cent in the first four weeks of the year. January housing construction was up 35.8 per cent and the auto industry has reported sales to be up 10.2

Overall industrial output has risen by at least one per cent, with gains being shown in all sectors.

Even though the anticipated reduction of Federal Reserve Bank interest rates has not yet materialised, the US stock market has been extremely bullish in the past few months, making the Dow Jones average surpass the dream mark of 1,100 a week or so ago.

A major negative element in the USA is that country's mammoth budget deficit of about \$200bn for 1983, and the fotrade deficit estimated at \$65bn for this year.

Japan is also headed for real growth this year. Output for fiscal 1983 is expected to rise 3.4 per cent as against Germany's anticipated zero growth, With an inflation and industrial pay

Exporters coy

about

achievements

How much is imported

Imported industrial products as.

.. % of consumption.

ment of foreign demand has nothing to

do with their doubts as to their own

Another survey by the Munich-based

competitiveness but with the globally

growing economic and political risks.

And, what's more, there are clear in-

dications that the upture in America is

well on its way. If for no other reason,

the very weight of the world's most im-

portant economic power must of neces-

sity benefit the rest of the industrial

Worldmental toll toll a medical

is much less pessimistic than in

tumn, bet at ungere for and

Fund (IMF).

rise of only 2.7 per cent last BUSINESS is nothing in this sector that or Jupan's competitiveness on to

What does worry the Toky ment is the growing prop world-wide — especially lower nese goods. But, considering ing of the world markets w

Business in the other EC or formen dropped the Grundig bid still poor, with a decline of decade it became clear that it would be per cent in 1982 against the rested by the German cartel office. year. The across-the-board factor by the community was 9. Ale Telefunken is a wholly owned last year — almost twice General Rocess known as Vergleichsverfah-

Unemployment is now tuning

put of the EC countries has an approval is expected to be given as nished further in the past few ion as the formal application has been according to Bundesbank scived. reign trade will impart at growth impulses.

For German exporters, this that demand will improve comb ny's exports goes to Western in countries (close to 50 per centus EC member nations).

The economic improvements industrial world are also likely: an effect on commodity pla parts of the Third World.

Naturally, there are also some culable risks, among them grown tectionist trends.

Even the EC is making no be in bringing about an integrated munity market. Individual come using subtle methods to interes the free flow of trade, mostly of on the verge of legitimacy.

Should a strong upswing with nishing unemployment world-ris terialise, there would naturally pressure on governments to men ports. But this is a bridge will be

Ifo Institute shows that the outlook now The recovery that seems to be offing is still too weak to affed " "The fact is that the world-wide ecoployment situation immediately. nomic situation has become brighter.

Moreover, there are still some The problems resulting from the over as to whether the upturn will bill extension of some developing and East ing one - mainly due to Ambuge budget deficits which must Blod countries have meanwhile been mitigated by the assistance they receive ficult to reduce interest rates. Batt ed from the International Monetary tomorrow's danger.

For the moment, the picture # ruble, and that includes the Geres, port business.

This year, too, is likely to see 18 p. rise in exports. Though this mit be enough to get the domestic by off the ground, it will neverthele as a boosier. Hans-lurgen klab to the second of the Die Welt S Kinds W.

rench firm to buy AEG-Telefunken after bid for Grundig short-circuits

goods, this is not surprising.

Japan had a current account fronth firm, has agreed to buy 75 of \$6.9bn in 1982. But Japanes, feent of AEG Telefunken. The acceptational for the first time in 25 then follows an unsuccessful bid by The Tokyo stock exchange mean to buy 75.5 per cent of ansuffering from foreign trade in West German electronics compatics though still remaining similar grandig.

Business in the other Eq.

k (a type of receivership).

be the greatest problem by far fille cartel office was said to have now stands at well over ten proper prepared to agree to the French What industry needs jobs is an abid for Grundig only if Philips lower interest rates that will calle up its 24.5 per cent stake in Grun-Philips, which is Dutch, refused.

All in all, there is now a define Thomson-Brandt/AEG-Telefun-ble silver lining. A good team chi deal was confirmed by AEG chief of the USA, Japan, German equive Heinz Durr at the meeting of number of other countries nowed creditors. The court-appointed regood chance of pulling the water, Dr Wilhelm Schaaf, acted as a nomy out of the mire of recessing between.

Friedici The deal still has to be approved by (Rheinischer, Merkur/Chief cartel office, but no veto is expect-A spokesman said that no official ication had been received but the Seasonally adjusted, the amed saw no reason to bar it.

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thing to Thomson-Brandt. . In any event, the sale will provide great financial relief for AEG. Telefunken was one of its greatest financial Thomson-Brandt will take over the management of Telefunken.

in the state of th

Nothing is known about the amount

to be paid. But insiders believe that no

money has changed hands because of

Telefunken's debt. Some even say that

AEG might in fact have to pay some-

Grundig has said in a press release that it would no longer pursue a merger with Thomson-Brandt. But both parties agreed on the need to intensify cooperation. The release said that Grundig has no intention at present of seeking

another partner. 75.5 per cent of Grundig's DM262,5m capital is held by the Grundig Foundation, the remaining 24.5 per cent by Philips. Grundig will continue its operations under the present ownership structure, the release said.

Grundig has confirmed that the cartel office approval for the merger with Thomson-Brandt was withheld due to the Philips equity.

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bly not only due to the fact that a Thomson-Brandt/Grundig-Philips conglomorate would wield excessive power on the market but to the fact that Thomson-Brandt already owns the German consumer electronic firms Nordmende, Saba and Dual.

The cartel authority would in any event have had no choice but to turn down the merger application because it had at once denied Philips:more than a 24.5 per cent stake in Grundig.

Grundig's initial intention was to take over Telefunken after AEG had made a binding deal with its creditors. If that had happened, Grundig would have entered into the merger with Thomson-Brandt as the owner of Tele-

Grundig decided, however, to postpone the Telefunken takeover until the end of this year to facilitate a positive decision by the cartel office. It learned that the Telefunken deficit was DM250m and thus larger than originally thought by Grundig.

Grundig later learned that Telefunken's parent company AEG was negotiating not only with Thomson-Brandt but also with the Japanese Matsushita

AEG is said to have loosely negotiate ed with Thomson-Brandt for years and to have discontinued the talks only when it learned about the French company's bid for Grundig.

Another stumbling block for the Grundig merger was the Philips equity. The Dutch company was not prepared to relinquish its stake in a customer who bought about DM400m worth of components a year,

In addition, Philips was probably miffed about Grundig's Intention to sell close to 75 per cent of its stock to Thomson-Brandt because this would in all: likelihood have violated existing contracts between Philips and Grundig.

According to insiders, Philips not only holds an option on the remaining Grundig stock but also has a veto right.

High stakes

Grundig advisers Ludwig Poullain and Max Grundig had hoped to collect about DM800m for the 75.5 per cent block of shares to be sold to Thomson-Brandt, It seems the stakes in this poker game were too high.

Telefunken's 1982 sales stood at about DM1.5bn (1981: DM1.7bn), But the 1982 figure does not include the sales of the Milan subsidiary (which has meanwhile been sold) and the Mexican plant (which has been shut down).

The 1982 operating losses are still unknown though it is known that they stood at about DM200m in 1981, mostly accounted for by the foreign operations.

The lion's share of sales is accounted for by colour TV sets of which 700,000 were produced last year.

Sales at the beginning of this year were about 25 per cent higher than a account to the first than year carlier.

In profile

Telefunken came into being in 1903 when AEG and Siemens & Halske of Berlin formed the Gesellschaft für Drahtlose Telegraphie, Telefunken for short, as a 50-50 joint

In 1941, AEG bought the 50 per cent Siemens stake in Telefunken. making it a wholly owned subsidiary. And in 1967 Telefunken was renamed AEG-Telefunken.

As part of the overall AEG electrical conglomorate, Telefunken specialised in consumer electronics. making radios, TV sets, tape recorders and record players.

Its 1982 sales were DM1.5bn with a payroll of 3,500 and manufacturing plants in Brunswick and Celle, A Hanover plant was shut down in 1979 due to cheap Japanese sets flooding the European market and the resulting deterioration of prices.

There were rumours at various times that AEG intended to sell its consumer electronics sector to Japan's Matsushito.

In 1982, Grundig planned to take over Telefunken but this plan was dropped.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 10 March 1983)

Telefunken's German payroll now stands at 3,500 (1,750 in Hanover, 1,000 in Colle and 250 in Brunswick). It is still unknown whether more staff will be laid off under Thomson-Brandt mana-

Thomson-Brandt's 1981 consumer electronics sales stood at about DM3bn. The concern's German sales through Saba, Nordmende and Dual (combined payroll 3,700) were about DM1.7bn in

Thomson-Brandt's across-the-board operating losses in 1982 amounted to DM450m. A company spokesman has said that this year will again close in the red. Its world-wide payroll is 31,800.

Even before the latest deal, AEG and Thomson-Brandt were partners in the Videocolor GmbH, Ulm, But the company, which made picture tubes for colour TV, was subsequently shut down.

Telefunken is also involved in a joint venture with the French company plus the Japanese Matsushita concern. They operate a videorecorder factory.

If Grundig had morged with Telefunken, the Japanese participation would have had to be relinquished on orders from the cartel office.

By approving the Telefunken/ Thomson-Brandt i merger, the Berlin watchdog authority would at least prevent Philips from being a party in the conglomorate. This would also enable Grundig to step up its cooperation with

Grundig's sales in the 1981/82 business year (ending on 31 March) stood at' almost DM2.9bn. They are expected to rise to about DM3.5bn this year, Last year's profits were more than DM200m,

The Bonn Economic Affairs Ministry has not yet commented on the latest development in the consumer electronics industry. But a spokesman, referring to Telefunken's Berlin operation, has expressed hopes that Thomson-Brandt will take Berlin's special position into

(866deitsche Zeitring 10 March 1983)



FLASHBACK

100 years since the death of Karl Marx

For 70 years the grave of Karl Marx sion and Lenin was also to spend I and his wife Jenny in the Highgate cemetery in London was covered by a simple stone slab.

In March 1883 only 20 mourners turned up at his funeral to pay their last

A pretty modest tribute to a man who ist today regarded as the "father of the world revolution"

Marx was transferred to a more prominent site in the cemetery in 1954; two years later a huge bronze bust of him was placed over the grave.

Khrushchev and Bulganin laid a wreath on his grave in 1956 in honour of the spiritual father of the 1917 October Revolution.

Every time a parade is held in the Red Square in Moscow, larger-than-life portraits of Marx, Engels and Lenin, the forefathers of today's Soviet state; hang resplendent on the front of the GUM department store opposite the VIP platform near Lenin's mausoleum.

During the funeral ceremony 100 years ago, Friedrich Engels, loyal companion, co-author of important works and a 'helper in need' to the Marx family, said (then, it sounded exaggerated): "His name will live on throughout the centuries, as will his works".

Today, the teachings of Markx form the ideological basis for over a third of the world's population.

Who would have expected this of the poor German emigré living in London at the end of the 19th century?

Karl Marx died on 14 March, 1883, as a result of a pulmonary abscess. He passed away at the age of 65 while sitting in his favourite armchair.

His body was found by two people who had stood by his side for most of his life: Friedrich Engels and Helene Demuth, known as Lenchen, a housekeeper to the Marx family and the mother of his illegitimate son, Henry.

Marx died only 15 months after his wife Jenny and was buried in the same grave. The fact that his final restingplace was to be in a cemetery in London, far away from his native country,

Marx spent over half his life in the British capital — altogether 34 years. It, was here that he wrote or conceived his most important works, in-

cluding Das Kapital. And yet London was never his true home, but more of a place to work, his

Marx remained an internationalist, a stateless person, after he had renounced his: Prussian citizenship in 1845 and after the Pritish authorities had refused his application for naturalisation in

London of the 19th century was a melting pot for emigres of all nationalities and political shades.

Furst Metternich fled to the British capital in 1848 following the March revolution in Vienna.

Other visitors were the anarchist, Michail Bakunin; the Russian revolutionsry, Alexander Herzen; and Wilhelm Liebknecht (father of Karl Liebknecht), who subsequently became a member of the Reichstag.

In 1864, Italian freedom-fighter Garibaldi was greeted in a triumphal procesgreat deal of his time in this city.

London was the capital, the fulcrum, of an empire, and at the same time the centre of Pritain's industrial strength built on the industrial revolution.

With a population of two-and-a-half million, London was the world's biggest city. The British tolerated the conglomeration of emigrés with a mixture of indifference and arrogance.

Marx, a newcomer himself with no English friends, contemptuously referred to his fellow-sufferers as "the sweepings of many nations" and "emigrant swine"

Even today there is no official comoulsory registration for residents in Bri-

As opposed to the strict police surveillance in Berlin, Paris or Brussels, where Marx had been and from where he was expelled, the authorities allowed the "notorious German agitator" to develop the theoretical basis of world re-

Karl Marx was born on 3 March, 1818, in the small town of Trier on the

He was born into a solid middle-class family. His grandfather was a Rabbi, his father a lawyer in the Prussian adminstration

His father later became a convert to Lutheranism and changed his name from Heschel to Heinrich. The family was well-off. They had a vineyard, a cook and two maids.

At the age of 17, Marx left his town of birth, once a Roman settlement, in 1835 to take up studying law in the university town of Bonn.

His father wanted him to follow in his own footsteps. However, Karl frittered away so much time writing romantic poems and enjoying student life that his father decided to send him to Berlin one year later.

There was more a disciplined atmosphere in the up-and-coming Prussian capital, more conducive to teaching and

In Berlin, Marx became familiar with the basic teachings

Hegel and Feuerbach, which were to be so important for his own theories at a later date. Shortly before he left Berlin, he became engaged to Jenny, the daughter of the Baron of Westphalla. The liberal and intelligent aristocrat was Marx's mentor. Jenny, who four years older than Marx himself, had to wait seven years for matrimonial bliss. She was a companion through life, working for Mark as an unpaid secretary, giving birth to seven of his children and following him during his many moves as an

emigré. She very often went from one pawnshop to the next, and as her family was distantly related to the Scottish clan of the Campbells she was often able to pawn the napkins and damask table-cloths bearing the old coat of

Marx was to suffer all his life from lack of money. Just as he waited, day in, day out, for the world revolution, he always hoped for the miracle of a large inheritance which would save him from his worldly suffering.

If it had not been for his loyal friend, Engels, he wuld have shared the fate of so many emigrants in London. Engels' financial support spared him squalor and misery.

Engels, the son of a textiles manufacturer, was born in Barmen on 28 November, 1820. In 1842, he was sent to Manchester by his father to take up a commercial apprenticeship.

His father hoped that he would then forget the fancy revolutionary ideas rampant among Germany's youth at the

Whereas Marx never stepped foot inside an English factory and had only ever seen a German one while visiting the Karlsbad spa, Engels had gathered practical experience on industrial life.

He had gained an insight into the bitter realities behind the magnificent fitcade of industrial expansion, whereas Marx remained the theoretician of the proletarian revolution.

Another point of dissimilarity was that Marx had led a "bourgeois" kind of life, a father with children; Engels, on the other hand, remained a life-long

He lived together with a girl called Mary who worked in a spinning mill, and after she died with her sister Lizzie. Only once was Marx unfaithful to his

wife (his loyal housekeeper, Lenchen, was the third party). Engels lent a helping hand and paid the maintenance costs for Marx's illegi-

timate child, Henry, as if it were his Marx's daughter Eleanor, who was the only child to outlive the father, first heard of the existence of her half-bro-

ther on her dying bed. Marx and Engels together were the intellectual factory which produced the teachings of scientific socialism.

regular job and obtain regular in Karl Marx dropped his studies of law in Berlin and became doctor of philosophy in 1841. In 1842, he took on the job of editor-

his illegible handwriting. British Library).

couldn't pay the rent.

After Marx's death, Engels of all these fragments (sometimes in

The British Museum with its store reference books and other materials ... Continued from page 4 the source Marx needed to derect tecampaign and indeed to have mot

the source Marx needed to develocampaign and indeed to have moutheories on world revolution.

Apart from this it was not additions and there was no need to from his home in Dean Street, whice major policy decisions.

A commemorative plaque of SPD MPs will take their places in the seen on house number 64 in mindestag in the knowledge that the Street. Of Marx's three daughter will constantly bring up the lived to adult age, two commined the option, nuclear country pollution.

His four great grandchildred option, nuclear power, pollution present as guests of honour durit seice but to say Jein to everything (a cow in 1968 on the occasion (Min)). Not one became a Communist SPD business manager Peter Glotz

ECHNOLOGY

Technocrats peek into the future and come up with some warnings

eneral elections will be decided in the private home just by the press

companies will only need to ema few workers on a regular if business picks up strongly, a ard code will get in touch with rs ready and waiting at home.

Karl Marx . . . problems with trajer insurance and business build-(he will turn into investment ruins, as in-chief for the Rheinische Zeiterencreasing number of depart-Cologne. He the spent one as its are devolved to locations outside years in Paris, where he met the centres. Heine.

After having being expelled dic,"

France, he moved to Brussh his is not an excerpt out of a bruary 1845. Industrialisation in drawn by the Munich-based Insti-He was already working down for Housing and Urban Develop-Engels and in february 1848 the sit in a discussion by planning ex-published a truly historic document detailing with the subject of the im-Manifesto of the Communist Paristions of new media technologies The Manifesto began with the development or urban and regio-tence: "A spectre is haunting Estructures, the spectre of Communication Their futuristic excursion led the ex-

tence: "A spectre is manning afficient futuristic execution of Communism".

However, Marx and his familif cabling is continued in Germany to constantly haunted by a spectral extent planned, something which

ferent kind: that of poverty. Times were particularly hards be extent planned, something winds are of the six experts at the discussion moved to London in 1849. The bubbled, this will have considerable somily's first house in Andersa according to Munich's urban planned, the modern day Punk ment

off the modern-day Punk man According to Munich's urban plann-off the modern-day Punk man gexpert. Dr Klaus Schussmann, the Road, brought them no luck staffter will be comparable to the conse-forced to move out, mocked by the grant of onlookers, as they could man fishing.

The build confiscated a shift time, however, things will deve-worldly goods, including the children's the process of (spatial) concentra-

cradle and the children's toys.

Marx, his wife and their fowed the reversed, thanks to the possibilities came later) then moved the presented by the new media.

German Hotel in Soho, when the tendency towards increasingly thanks to the possibilities.

Fish Restaurant now stands. Blocating various functions with the However, they were yet again prof video terminal communications to move out for the same result according to Schussmann, bring bout a disintegration of the "standard Marx only over once tried to ficture" at the expense of the urban

His application for a position will other words: there will be a further tary at the Great Western Rair population of the city centres.

London was turned down beauticated to official institutions and

This same handwriting with button method. In addition, the scribbled onto innumerable pictulons at the place of work will be repaper during Marx's regular with the British Museum (now the six Assistant Secretary to Bavaria's Environmental of the six Assistant Secretary to Bavaria of the six Assistant Secretary thorities can be etablished via the



certain that the new technologies willbring about "a decade of upheaval and changes in human and social behaviour patterns.'

Service and administration enterprises would be able to employ home-workers to carry out their activities. Workers will then only need to

come into the office once or twice a week for back-up meetings and to estublish contacts." Apart from this, all work could be completed at home.

Experts agree that this is a positive and yet dangerous development. On the one hand, there is an incalculable risk of increased concentration of power and additional control.

On the other, however, there would be an easing-up of rush-hour traffic, which would help future regional planning.

Via computerised network coordination, the areas neglected by the German Federal Railway System, particularly in peripheral districts, would regain their mportance.

Dr Hans-Jürgen von der Heide from the German Landkreistag also pointed out such advantages.

The rural areas will now have the opportunity to participate in technological

They could benefit from the fact that administrative and economic factors will be decentralised via increased data transport.

However, von der Heide believes that the primary beneficiaries will be the peripheral areas surrounding the builtun conurbations.

According to Klaus Schussmann, there will be un "interceptive line" between the urban core areas and the outand-out rural areas.

Even the "lead of urban areas over rural districts can be cancelled out via telecommunications.

There will therefore be a growing chance of more balanced regional living

Whatever happens, Dr Klaus Türke from the Federal Research Institute for Regional Studies and Environmental

Planning in Bonn sees the concentrated conurbations as the big losers in this

They would lose most in terms of population and economic power.

Decentralisation and rationalisation will be felt most in insurance and banking centres.

"This is where urban planners must start talking to investors now about who s going to stay and who will be leav-

Dr Klaus Winckler from the Federation of German Trade Unions, on the other hand, could only offer a gloomy

forecast of things to come. In his opinion, the only ones to gain substantially from the new technologies are the big companies.

Displacement competition will increase and the communication gap between the towns and the rural areas will

According to union estimates, the rationalisation effect will endanger about ten million jobs

Four million jobs will be "pensioned off" by 1990 alone, says a projection by the Federation.

What is more, the introduction of increased work at home will virtually eliminate labour on a full-time basis.

"There will eventually only be a few regular workers". Winckler states outlining the future situation on the labour market. "The rest will depend on seasonal employment on a day-to-day basis." Karl Stankiewitz

(Maunheimer Morgen, 4 March 1983)

rears of the future, loss of the individual's creativity, crises, social disruption — these were just a few of the key phrases and discussion points during a conference held in Bonn by the Evangelical Academy Arnoldshain on the topio "Our Future in a Computerisworld

George Orwell's 1984 became a vivid reality as 70 scientists, politicians, representatives of industry and journalists tried to at least outline some of the farreaching implications of radical technological changes.

ed Society.

The final result was skepticism, which was academically formulated in the thesis: "Highly computerised societies are extremely susceptible to interference and vulnerable".

During the conference, frightening examples were put forward to back up

Wherever new computer systems and new media knock down national barriers, wherever a "breathtaking process of concentration" leads to a growing mental Ministry, Emil Groher, is number of transnational conglomerates,

On the brink of an Orwellian

this is where the monitoring systems of national governments start to break

The accompanying thesis: "A worldwide informatisation tends to devour its own administrators." Against this background, discussion

centred on the old problem of "controlling the controllers." Computer criminality in the USA, for example, costs American industry an

unnual \$100 million.

Authorities helplessly face the fact that computer fans or clever programmers can convert the cheap personal computers available anywhere Into terminals which have access to outside data banks.

Two obvious dangers are the intrusion upon one's privacy and clever industrial espionage.

These prospects have also got the military authorities worried. During this conference, for example, it was again confirmed that in 1980 the USA became nuclear attack three times within a fewmonths, The reason? The computers went wrong.

As a result, a new programming language, the ADA system, was developed. Nobody, however, really knows whether the system will function in case of un emergency; such a system can only

The discussions participants in Bonn had their doubts: even under normal conditions, the coordination of decisions between the individual Nato militury stuffs within the computerised Nato system NICS does not appear to be working all that smoothly.

This is underlined by complaints made by the Nato supreme commander for Central Europe that the cooperation between programmers and officers is not "sutisfuctory."

This led to a reference to a "vulnerability study" completed by the Swedish. Defense Ministry.

This report emphasised that highly computerised societies are more valuerable than those in which computer technologies are not so advanced.

Growing intrusions on personal privacy, a politically almost uncontrollable power base for transnational companies, the fears expressed by the military of misuse and the misuse itself of the new generation of computers could all lead to atomic destruction.

This attitude corresponded with the fears voiced at the conference that automation would lead to such socio-politi-

Frankfurter Neue Presse in the state of th

cal conflicts that it will be impossible to control social systems in their present-

A further example underlines the extent to which the Federal Republic of Germany has already become a computerised society.

If the annual turnover of the media industry is added to that of the electronics industry, the sum total of over DM100 billion and one million employees takes them into second place in the industrial sector behind the chemicals industry.

. In view of such developments, the participants had no intention of becoming modern-day Luddites.

Unfortunately, the analysis of the dangers involved in computerisation could not provide a model for a practical form of crisis management.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 21 February 1983)



eaten away by mice) and comp total of 39 volumes and four Eight years in power likely mentary volumes.

50th anniversary of Marx's bink

Wolfgang Kabi hid his campaign strategists knew why

(Rheinische Post 1 Heat high tried to keep the Greens below the

five per cent needed for representation

of bright young men can be trusted to succeed in turning the tables on the Greens and forcing them to come up with a clear Ja or Nein and thus splitting them.

to the SPD if it wants to survive.

Hans Heigert (Súddeutsche Zeitung, 8 March 1983)

in the Bundestag: Hans-Jochen Vogel and his handful

This is the only course of action open

As to the change of generation and new political talent: the FDP (which has lost many of its best people) and the Greens, along with the other parties, will have to prove in the 10th Bundestag: that they cam come up with new people and new ideas.

RESEARCH

Mountain-top laser beam probes damage to protective ozone layer

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

Scientists from the Max Planck Insti-tute for Quantum Optics at the University of Munich are hoping that the flashes of laser light beamed vertically into the sky will provide information on the state of the ozone shield in the earth's atmosphere.

. The laser experiments are being carried out on Germany's highest mountain, Zugspitze, in Bavaria.

The light echoes returning to earth will help discover how endangered the layer of ozone is by chemicals emitted into the atmosphere, :

Ozone keeps the dangerous section of the sun's ultra-violet rays away from the

Ever since the mid-seventies, scientists have not been able to dispel the suspicions that this protective ozone shield is being chemically destroyed, particularly by fluorinated hydrocarbons contained as propellants in many aerosol cans or emitted as exhaust fumes by supersonic aircraft.

. It had become evident that these chemicals, which were considered to be non-combustible, non-toxic and chemically resistant, were being attacked by the energy-rich ultraviolet light.

This leads to the release of chlorine, which can subsequently trigger off a di-sastrous chain reaction causing ozone, which contains three atoms of oxygen, to disintegrate into normal two atom



The latter, however, allows the dangerous ultra-violet rays to reach the earth's surface unhindered.

It is precisely this short-wave part of the sun's ultra-violet light which is absorbed by the deoxyribonucieic acid (DNA) in the stockbreeding nuclei, which can result in changes of the inheritant characteristics of virtually all living creatures.

This can lead to skin cancer for humans, disastrous loss of yields in the plant and animal world.

For this reason, the use of such propellants has been banned or its production severy restricted in the USA, Sweden, Norway and Canada.

With the help of the radar-like lightecho system, scientists on the Zugspitze are hoping to clarify the situation.

Every ten minutes, they receive a complete profile of the distribution of ozone at heights: of between 10 and 40

The installation's central feature is an examiner laser operating on the basis of a mixture of the inert gas xenon and chlorine,

Meteorological stations

all over the world

supplied the data arranged in sec-at-a-glance tables in these new reference

works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, singhine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency.

These figures compiled over the years are invaluable both for planning journeys.

ese righter combined over the years are mysturiois point for bishning Journeys

Basic facts and figures for every country in the world form a preface to the fables. The emphasis is on the country's natural statistics, on climate,

"population, trade and transport,

The guides are handy in size and flexibly bound; indispensable for daily use in commerce, industry and the travel trade.

Two volumes are already in print They are:

North and South America, 172 pp., DM 22,80; Asia/Australia, 240 pp., DM 24,80

Africa, app. 115 pp., DM 19.80;

with the course of his trees

Europe/USSR, app. 190 pp., DM 24,80.

Look it up in Brockhaus

They will be followed in March 1983 by:

Adaptive Charles have been

Every second, one hundred flashes of light are beamled up with a capacity of

A Spanish Sierra Nevada.

round cupolas on the 2168-metre high Calar Alto in its wan light,

The two scientists from Heidelberg were using their computer to try to trace a young 'frog' in the sky.

lion light-years away.

to investigate and take a closer look at a

However, this was to be no routine

Hardly had the measuring instru-ments tuned in to the focal point of the

One of the stars located in the tadpoad shone brighter than all the

Neckel and Sarcander soon realised

What they were witnessing on their computer's display screen was the

Planck Institute for Astronomy in Heldelberg and at the same time head of the Sierra team.

Both light beams are play LITERATURE 60-centimetre reflecting kind channeled into the approprie ing instruments. The late Arthur Koestler: personal

Up to now, measurement ozone layer has only been per snapshot basis, making it if obtain meaningful findings is fact that the concentration of ries depending on the time of

and the fluctuation of sunspot The precision last DM500,000, on the other during the next few years be provide a complete picture of the cleaning lady found the two bocontent on the higher tegles I dies in the quiet house in the Loncarth's atmosphere.

Midistrict of Knightsbridge. Nevertheless, it would do thin the chest of drawers lay a farewell for Germany's decision halo art. The police soon arrived and ruled serious thought to restricting the possibility of "involvement by venting this danger to the confier persons".

tective shield.

Even if the danger of the shing house. A. D. Peters announced definitely confirmed, country if "the world-renowned writer" would take time to become income the flat poisoned themselves.

Slow to mix thoroughly, it has the literary world is shaken at the ten years before the fluoriasid ws. It has lost one of its literary gecarbons released reach the smallest, a great novelist and brilliant and begin to attack the ozone in the same literary world is shaken at the ten years before the fluoriasid ws. It has lost one of its literary gecarbons released reach the smallest, a great novelist and brilliant and begin to attack the ozone literary scientific theoretician. Wilheln His books had stimulated discussion

(Allgemeine Zaltung Mainz spinong philosophers, physicists, mediatesperts and parapsychologists alike.

A supernova, the explosive Born in Budapest in a good Jewish death of a distant sun

AD in China.

derstood.

a computer.

tion of Perseus.

another few pieces in the jight h

to observe the events in the con-

Astronomers in Spain had (#0"

It was a cold and frosty night in the

ten million watts, each fasting twenty

Together with its intensity, the colour

The wave-length of its ultra-violet

light (308 nanometres) was specifically

The greater the amount of light lost

The laser is designed in such a way as

selected so that it would be swallowed

as it passes through the ozone layer, the

to be able to receive the weak scattered

light which returns to earth and evalua-

te this together with the scattered light

from the 338-nanometre primary beam,

the light of which is not returned to

earth in a weak form but which decrea-

ses with the increasing distance of the

An electronic comparison of the mea-

sured beam with the primary (reference)

beam enables the thickness of the layer

of this laser light is very important.

billionths of a second.

thicker this layer must be.

of ozone to be ascertained.

up by the ozone.

ozone layer.

The full moon bathed the white and

The two astronomers, Thorsten Neckel and Michael Sarcander, had just made their way to the peak to begin their star-gazing night shift.

The automatically-operated telescope, weighing over three tons, smoothly focussed in on the 'tadpole' galaxy in the constellation of Perseus - 150 mil-

This galaxy had been given its nickname by radio astronomers (official classification: NGC 1265).

On the star map charted with the aid of radio waves NGC 1265 looks just like the afore, mentioned freshwater am-

Out two astronomers were planning few of the stars in this galaxy.

night's work.

2.20 metre reflector than the unexpect-

billions of suns in all the galaxies put

that this moon-lit night was something special for astronomers.

abrupt death of a distant star. "150 million years ago that sun exploded in NGC 1265", explains Professor Hans Blasser, Director of the Max

"The result was a supernova", he addedon't ring of the entire of (Kölser Madt Angright, 6 Me

After putting in a fleeting appearance This tremendous eruption of a young Zionist in Palestine, he becais the result of the star's 'old whe a reporter for the Ullstein publish-

is the result of the star's 'old-spie a reporter for the Ullstein publishit has used up its combustible group in Berlin.

it's core literally collapses. In no time at all, he had developed This creates such a vast seed one of Berlin's star journalists. He energy that the star's extend dividewed Einstein on the theory of burns off. It lights up and be dativity and quantum mechanics. tremely bright—this lasting fat he was the only representative of the weeks in some cases.

Within a few days it radiates har polar expedition in the airship energy as out sun in 10 millions that Zeppelin' in 1931.

Although astronomers of his committed involvement in the comb the skies, the death of a thie of social justice, particularly durrarely been observed. Supermon the years of the Big Depression, only ever been witnessed three towe him into the arms of the Commutae

the Milky Way. The first was ints.

To the Germans, Koestler was a kind

mily, he grew up and studied in Vieh-

Koestler took part in legal and illegal The doyens of the astronostratty activities in Berlin, journeyed Tycho Brahe (1572) and Johann Sough the Soviet Union, and was one (1604) discovered one each. Sine first forced tolemigrate in 1933.

The most recent observie On behalf of Willy Münzenberg, made by astronomers from the bestler fleped complete the so-called sity of Berne on 28 October, 1988 authorch dealing with the fire in the spiral galaxy NGC 6946 — the scheme.

pernova in this galaxy. Allowever, this period also witnessed in theory, the explosive design wing doubts about the reasoning bedistant sun has been scientificated and humaneness of the Commu-

Last year, an astro-physical expensions reflections were intensified Garghing by the name of Wolld Ling the Spanish Civil War, where he lebrands simulated such a spen wild observe with his own eyes the For this achievement, he was pades.

Physics Association.

However, exact measured with the Communists in a still missing to back up the the sumber of exact and effective writings. As Hans Elsasser points oul: Contant, yet on the part of the orthodox "The Calar Alto measurement communists most feared, "apostates"

pizhenitsyn's Archipelego Gulago

communism. his world-famous novel Darkness Noon, published in 1940, Koestler scribes with foreboding exactitude The brightness of the phear and Stalin's brutal intimidation me-became gradually less intense, who bods long before Krushchev's secret characteristic feature for a super paper at the 10th Communist Party Elsasser remarks. truth about the Moscow show trials

companion to his former comrades, German became the language in lich he articulated his ideas, both as a who had it upon hard times through no entists and a writer. fault of their own. He too had suffered in poverty, and now that he had improved his financial

position proved to be an exemplary friend in need. Many young writers, and scientists

Blaue" (literally: Arrow into Space) and

"Der Gott, der keiner war" (The God

wrote together with Spencer, Silone and

who was no God, - literally), which he

In his books, Koestler revealed a fine

sense of psychological empathy in pre-

senting the temptation of Communism

an internee, then French Foreign Legio-

nary and finally, a member of the Bri-

... Henceforth, he wrote only in the En-

He appeared at numerous internatio-

nal conferences, undaunted in the pas-

His memorable appearance at the

Berlin Conference for Cultural Free-

dom in 1950, for example, will go down

No matter how underhanded the

And yet he always remained a true

slander by the Soviet Union and its sup-

porters in the West, Koestler was not a

sion of his convictions.

After the war, in which Koestler was

and its destructive pseudo-logic.

tish Army, he moved to England.

glish language.

in history.

man to be intimidated.

were helped by his words of advice, his stimulation and material, as well as spiritual, support.

The seventies saw Koestler return to

daring in a faint-hearted age Other, publications then followed: his firmer love, the natural sciences and The Yogi and the Commissar, "Pfell ins scientific theory.

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

He wrote books on Newton and Keppler which subsequently became standard works on the history of science. Titles such as The Case of the Mid-

wife Toad, The Ghost in the Machine or "Der Mensch - Irrläufer der Evolution" (Man - Evolution's Stray Being - literally) were very popular but also the root of sharp criticism.

His works were pervaded by a skeptical, even pessimistic mood, as if Koestler had comprehended the limits to progress at an early stage and was putting up a vehement fight against "reducing" man to a mere concoction of chemistry and physics.

Koestler was one of the co-founders of the "Princeton School", which tried to provide mysticism with a new importance in the modern literary geist.

He travelled to India and Japan to discover whether - as he had himself claimed — "the East can provide a cure for the spiritual diseases of the Western

As Ernst Jünger, before him, he tried out various drugs in self-knowledge experiments (under strict medical supervi-

He delved into the secret - imaginary of real - world of parapsychology and the "sciences of the psi". · Up to the very end, he remained curious, "always on God's trail".

"'He harboured ho illusions as to mankind's transitory and frail nature, and was determined ever to expose himself to the danger of mental immaturity.



Arthur Koestler,,, no Illusions about the frailty of man,

In summer last year took on the office.of chairman of the controversial suicide association "Exit" and wrote the foreword to a brochure issued by the organisation containing advice on how to commit suicide.

His friends were convinced that Koestler would follow in the footsteps Homingway and Montherlant, and they realised that it would be pointless to try and prevent him from doing so by force of worldly and religious argu-

Their memories of the writer will probably be tinged with bitterness.

Yet other memories of a good friend and a brilliant Jahrhundertgeist will

His ideas and arguments have been of great advantage literature and scientce alike and his own personal daring and moral courage a unique example in an age of faintheartedness and conformity. Günther Zehm

(Die Well, 4 March 1983)

The Society for Christian-Jowish Cooperation has chosen the following motto as its theme for 1983: resistunce ut the right time.

The Society's German coordination committee explains why it believes this motto to be just as relevant in 1983 as it was in 1933:

"The right time for resistance activities was long before 1933, during a period in which every individual could freely voice his opinion in the then-

existing contitutional state.

The politically motivated murders committed during the Welmar period and the accompanying circumstances, partly a result of the lax action taken by legal bodies; the lack of a national consagges in regard to these political me-thods; all these factors were signs of warning.

Why did so few realise this fact? Resistance was extremely difficult between 1933 and 1945.

Hannan Arendt was baffled and alarmed at explanations put forward by German intellectuals after 1933 to justify the fact that many had come to an arrangement "with Hitler", on the state of The submissive proclamations by

German universities are shameful.
Why such undignified subservience? cannot be solely be explained by re-

ferring to the reign of terror at the time. After 1945, we no longer spoke of resistance but of our duty to oppose certain trends or tendencies which are capable of endangering the basic democratic consensus in out society, even if they at present seem relatively harmless.

MORALITY

Lessons from Weimar



Helene Jacobs ... 'a minute contribu-(Photos DKR)

In view of the dangers facing the very survival of mankind on this earth (weapons, pollution of the environment. population explosion, lack of energy tesources), it is becoming more and more difficult to come to an understanding with one another.

There's simply so much we cannot

There are growing signs of a lack of compromise and of people being purely interested in maintaining their own opi-

Is this of any use? If the fear of impending dangers drives us out of the sphere of rational tought into the realm of irrationality,

the worst is to be expected. It is out duty to counteract such tendencies at the right time, that means

During this week of brotherliness, the Buber-Rosenzweig medal will be awarded to Helene Jacobs.

She once described her commitment to helping those persecuted by the Nazi

"I was able to take in a few of the the Jows myself and help others to get iden-

This was just a drop in the ocean compared to the magnitude of the disaster. These activities led to my impriso-

ment between 1943 and 1945. A search triggered off by anonymous informers uncovered a further two relief

operations in which I was involved. The special court set up in the district court building in Berlin felt that two

years in prison was a fair sentence. After the war was over, my first intention was to re-establish the legal system

which has been destroyed. I started studying Law and devoted Continued on page 12



EDUCATION

Clashing views over the role of technology

Bremen computer scientist Professor Klaus Haefner says that Germany's educational system has failed to meet the challenge of computer technology. In Die neue Bildungskrise (The New Crisia in Education), published by Birkhäuser Verlag, Basel, he suggests what should be done. The author of this article, Sigrid Müller, a Hamburg University lecturer, says the book is not critical enough of either technology or society.

future society dominated by com-A puter technology would need to develop an elitist education system, says Professor Klaus Haefner.

He says highly talented children must be allowed to develop unhampered by the less talented.

In Die neue Bildungskrise, Professor Haefner writes that education policy must be aimed at sparing man from having to compete with technology. Technology is almost always better at thinking processes.

Professor Haefner develops the idea of two utopian societies existing in 1997: the "homuter society" (derived from the Latin word home for man and computer) and the "alternative human socjety",

"As opposed to the homuter society that is aimed at a harmonious symbiosis of man and electronic data technology and in which man withdraws into thinking in emotional and all-encompassing categories, leaving the cognitive functions to computer technology, the alternative human society reserves the cognitive-intellectual processing of information for itself."

If the homuter society is to materialise by 1997, profits from automated production processes would have to be redistributed, working times would have to be cut down drastically and a special levy would have to be imposed on automated processes and used to help social hardship cases.

Direct democracy is a homuter soclety can be achieved relatively soon by using the data processing media. Polling and opinion surveys of any kind could be carried out via a monitoring screen. This could be controlled through individual identification numbers that would ensure one vote only for every eligible voter.

In addition, test questions would ensure that only qualified citizens could participate in the polling. Every citizen would be able to qualify through his personal information system, provided he knows how to use it.

Haefner's ideas of society's development after the introduction of electronic information systems are totally devoid of a sound social analysis or theory.

Having succumbed to the fascination of new technologies, he depicts a world which all problems can be solved by technology.

For him, technology is free of moral values. "If man fails in establishing a desirable homuter society the failure will not be a failure of technology. It will be due to the fact that some countries did not succeed in enabling man to cope with the leisure time and freedom suddenly available to him."

People in the work process who become redundant due to automation must be made to realise that work is no longer the main purpose of life. Education must place greater emphasis on the emotional side of man.

If our youth is to be prepared for a homuter society, schools must rid themselves of rational-intellectual subjects in favour of "social, philosophical and religious subjects, i.'e. the humanities in

Handling information technology should be practised as early as elementary school. Children must learn about the functioning, development and possibilites of the new media; and "their non-rational capabilities must be promoted more heavily."

"New areas of spiritual and emotional understanding and action must be found that will make it possible for many decades and centuries to come to do and experience the things that are beyond the capabilities of modern data

As Professor Haefner sees it, our educational policy must make it one of its foremost aims to spare man from compoting with technology which is almost invariably superior to man in the cogni-

One exception here is the socalled "incalculable people" who would spearhead the homuter society.

To give this elite a chance, we must abandon "today's homogeneity of education as early as in secondary schooling. Instead, we must clearly differentiate between the elite and others and

promote the elite. We must ensure that highly talented schoolchildren can develop unhampered by those who are less or differently qualified."

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

Professor Haefner's recommendations for an educational policy are of a general nature. He operates on the assumption of a multi-tier school system with today's range of subjects that have been augmented by information technology and complemented by such learning endeavours as sensuality and emo-

This leaves a number of questions open. Are six-year-olds to be taught with the help of a computer that the environment can seemingly be programmed? Are youngster in the lower grades of secondary school to learn about communication and codetermination primarily through information technology? Is there to be a choice between "hard" universities for the elite and "soft" ones that would provide a "humane" climate? Can information technology replace man's thinking in all areas? Does emotion then remain as the last domain of mankind?

Perhaps we should use out ability to think and act in complex categories before computer technology has made this ability atrophy. Perhaps we should use this ability before the "incalculable people" have made an incalculable de-

> Sigrid Müller (Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt,

Weimar...

Continued from page 11

myself to considering how the community could, help in material terms to at least satisfy some of the demands made by those who has survived the Nazi in-

I channelled my services into the reparation activities.

Although the results were not satisfactory, an attempt was made to admit the injustice committed.

Gradually, I saw that people began to realise the self-destructive nature of anti-semitism.

Both the Catholic and Protestant churches started to seriously discuss the traditional Christian hostility towards the Jews as a problem relating to their own existence.

However, this still hasn't been generally acknowledged.

I must accept the fact that my help is but a minute contribution".

Computers: MMEDICINE

not enough classes

There are few opposite pupils not in the last year to tearn computer science and nic data processing, according method or emminating with shock Bonn Education Ministry supplies by shattering them with shock

The lessons that were available trace of success.

usually offered in conjunct the treatment was developed in Gerphysics.

It means that surgery can be physics.

Berlin schools have computed professor Christian Chaussy, of Mufor less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesubject, but in most cases it is just 1980, the method had been used tion.

To the chain and a supplied professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that since Fesual Professor Christian Chaussy, of Musuch less senior pupils as an indext, told a conference that senior pupils are pupils as an indext, told a conference that senior pupils are pupils as an indext, told a conference that senior pupils are pupils as an indext, told a conference that senior pupils are pupils as a conference that senior pupils are pu

In the states of the Federal Leauccess rate was 90 per cent. courses are still being development as still being obtained less pain

In Baden-Württemberg, mort, less risk per cent of secondary school by certiler return to work computers. The figure for the Professor Chaussy said it should be

schools is 25 per cent. Salble to treat between 12,000 and Bavarian schools have been \$600 people a year this way. computer science in the 100 Kidney stones cannot only be painful since the 1981/82 school year tet also stubborn. Anybody who has also been available as an opiside a stone once must expect that a eighth, ninth and tenth school plew one will be formed eventually.

The subject is taught in the relapse rate in untreated patients 1,045 Bavarian schools; 490,180 per cent, though preventive measuschools are adequately equipped are possible through medication and are part of pilot projects proceedings in lifestyle. the Bonn Education Ministry. Latest statistics show that between

Berlin has had bluepring our and ten per cent of the population teaching of computer science the Western world either has or has 1975, and starting from next yar in the Federal Republic of Germany, will be equipped with microconstant year 120 out of every 100,000 delaif of Hesse schools now to cess to computer installations.

Lower Saxony is running test in the upper grades of 100 we schools. 40 per cent of the secondary stones, it would seem justified to Gymnasium type secondary are to this disorder as a scourge siminow have electronic data processing.

In North Rhine-Westphall, Medicine has not yet come up with a guidelines for this type of installation theory that would explain have been in existence since the kidney stones are formed. There per cent of secondary schools in the secondary schoo Rhineland-Palatinate has be

puter science since 1978, It is, however, known that one pre-In Schleswig-Holstein, more didition for kidney stones is urine half of the state's 100 Gymns the an excess of stone-forming subs-schools are equipped with missing and that this excess results from puters. In a drive from 1971 to be diabolism disorders.

Bonn Education Ministry has a the physical and chemical processes ed 54 pilot projects at a derlying the development of the crysthat eventually form stones are (Deutsches Aligemeises See Nown. These processes explain how

An excess of calcium, oxalate or uric id in the urine is inadequate as an exanation as are such other frequently intioned factors as a low volume of urine and changes in this acidity.

There are other risk factors that must taken into account when attempting explain the formation of exalate and phosphate stones, both of which conin calcium. Among these risk factors are age, sex, diet, liquid intake, climate, labolism disorders and possibly the ocial group to which a person belongs. Depending on the chemical composilion, kidney stones can develop into se-Penal very small or individual large lores. Particularly large stone specimens an fill the whole of the renal paivis.

Severe kidney colics usually occur one of methods, dry only when a small stone gets stuck in ice is used to reduthe ureter, preventing the passing of

Doctors off to a cracking start

with kidney stone treatment

Large, firmly wedged stones usually cause no more than dull pressure in the small of the back. Frequently, they cause no pain at all if the urine flow is

But these stones eventually displace the urine-forming tissue of the kidney. thus preventing the flow of urine. When this happens, the kidney blows up like a balloon and is eventually destroyed.

Some 80 per cent of all kidney stones are passed with the urine. This applies particularly to stones no bigger than 5mm in diameter. Half of these stones stand a good chance of being eliminat-

The passage of stones can be eased through medication. If a stone gets stuck in the ureter, doctors can try to emove it with the help of a loop.

Chemical dissolution through medication is only possible with uric acld

Tough animal experiments have shown that oxalate and phosphate stones can also be dissolved, medicine has not yet come up with drugs without toxic side effects for humans. This precludes the clinical use of these drugs.

Thee only remedy for stones wedged in the renal pelvis is surgery.

Peter Alken, of Mainz, said at the necting that modern surgical methods have widened the scope of treatment, In

ce the kidney temperature to 15 degrees C, when the stone can be removcomfortably. Another method is to use ultrasonic control devices for the surgery. This makes it easier for the surgeon to pinpoint the stone and prevents the possibility of severing one of the many small kidney arteries. But by far the

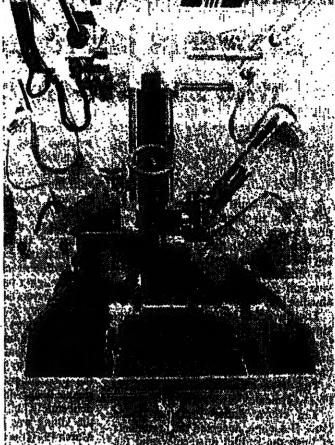
tering of kidney stones into many small particles ter and directed at

greatest progress is

marked by the shat-

the stone through a special reflector. The stone disintegrates into small enough particles to be passed naturally. The kidney itself and the surrounding tissue remain unaffected.

Professor Chaussy said these positive results coupled with more experience with the shock wave device (made by the Dornier aviation company of Friedrichshafen) have prompted doctors to



electric The shattering machine, This is the piece of equipment used shock waves. The in Munich to shatter kidney stones with sonic shock waves. shock waves are The success rate in three years has been high. The apparatus triggered underwa- was developed by the aircraft makers, Dornier. (Photo: Domier)

> apply this treatment to patients with infected stones as well.

> Since the particles of the smashed stone are passed more easily than originally assumed, doctors are now using this method even with stones bigger than a cherrystone.

Konrad Müller-Christiansen (Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt

Drug company puts big hopes in little sea fungus

Maminderithe Alligenteine

Swiss drug company is now turning A to the sea as a source of new drugs. Company researchers, together with scientists of the Bremerhaven Institute for Marine Biology, are exploring the possibility of obtaining drugs for heart and nervous disorders from marine

The institute has the world's largest collection of marine fungi and is therefore the obvious place for such re-

A project for deep-freezing fungi cultures has meanwhile been launched in an effort to avoid the difficult and labour-intensive problem of keeping the fungi alive.

Since the deal was signed, Bremerhaven material has been undergoing exhaustive tests as to its usefulness in the pharmaceuticals industry in laboratories in Switzerland and Italy.

What the researchers are looking for is not only new substances to be used as tranquilisers and for some coronary disorders but also the possible use of marine fungi as antibiotics.

Antibiolics made from land-based fungi are losing their effectiveness in many cases where bacteria have become resistant to them. It is hoped that mari-

ne fungi will yield a drug similar to penicillin but with a wider range of applications.

The Swiss research drive has been conceived as a long-term project that will extend over many years and is hoped to provide conclusive information on the

usefulness of marine fungi. The microscopic fungl -- rarely larger than 1mm in diameter - are kept in a nutrient solution into which release certain substances resulting from their metabolism.

These substances are then used for pharmacological test series.

So far, the fungi cultures have yielded little in the way of medically active substances, but the researchers are confident that they will achieve a breakthrough at some point.

They have meanwhile discontinued their research into the primitive, bubble-like single cell lungi and are concentrating al their efforts on the delicate and net-like species of more highly developed fungi.

The Botanical Department of the Institute for Marine Biology has a particular interest in the success of the research project now in progress because it is to receive a share of the earnings should the project prove commercially

Much of the money would then be used to ensure the future of the world's largest collection of marine fungi (Kulturensammlung mariner Pilze Bremerhaven, KMPB) which includes 300 primitive and 10,000 higher species.

The Swiss company has taken the precautionary measure of obtaining sole rights for the commercial explotation of the cultures.

The raw material provided by the Institute has been processed to a high degree of purity, meaning that the organisms contain no alien matter such as

bacteria, protozoa, algae and viruses. Before concluding the deal with the Swiss company, the Bremerhaven fungi cultures were used solely for non-

purpose-oriented basic research. The Institute has been engaged in ecological and taxonomical research since 1966. In addition, it supplies scientific institutions throughout the world with cultures of marine fungi.

Despite the international reputation KMPB, the interest in it was long ilmited to a very small circle of highly specialised scientists - possibly due to the fact that this type of research is relatively new, having begun around the turn of the century.

Some scientists deplore the fact that the practical application of the Bremer haven cultures is being explored by a foreign rather than a German company. it appears that word of the importance of the Bremerhaven collection has not yet got around in Germany. In any event, Bonn has so far refused to come up with the funds needed to establish a fungi bank that would be kept in a frozen state at - 160 degrees C, thus preserving it for posterity.

The need for such a bank is due to the fact that marine fungi can be kept Continued on page 14

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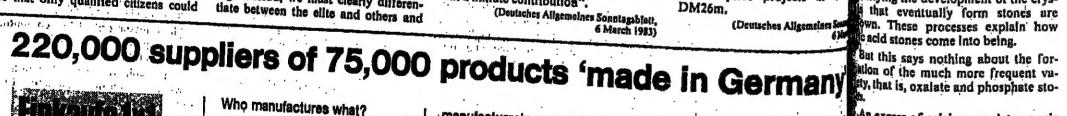
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Music makers

face the

naked truth

Frankfurier Rundschau

The plot is pretty basic and the only

L thing which causes trouble is the

We refer here to the production of

The problem is that the organisation

responsible for adding the sound-track

to these films, the Society for the Rights

of Musical Presentation and Mechani-

cal Duplication (GEMA), would like to

refuse to pay for the musical accompa-

niment of their cinema and home mo-

In a legal dispute before the 4th Pro-

vincial High Court and Civil Court of

Appeal in Hamm, GEMA's hopes of

obtaining such fees would seem to be

The next stage is the Federal Supre-

The court in Hamm came to the con-

clusion that the background music to

the blue films on the whole consists of

trivial tonal sequences, plonking and bits of music, all of which cannot be

This means that GEMA's claim that

According to the Hamm court the

adding of a a sound-track to a blue

movie cannot be compared with public

presentation of of dancing or light

The official verdict read as follows:

"There is indeed a substantial differen-

ce between the blue-movie audience

and those persons who visit other musi-

cal events. The former are primarily in-

terested in the pictorial material, the

noises in the background being of pure-

these are protected musical works can-

classified as dancing or light music.

me Court, which will have to lend its

legal car to the sound of blue music.

However, many blue-film producers

receive flat-rate payments.

gradually disappearing.

not be legally upheld.

soft-core and hard-core blue movies.

background music.

THE LAW

Six years jail for mother who shot in vengeance

Noiner Stadt Amener

Lübeck court has sentenced Marianno Bachmeier, 32, to a six-year prison term for manslaughter. She had been charged with the courtroom shooting of Klaus Grabowski, 35, a convicted sex offender who allegedly killed her 7year-old daughter Anna after sexually

The presiding judge said he was convinced that the accused had acted deliberately and that she was not mentally unbalanced on the day she shot Grabowski.

The defence has announced its intention to appeal.

The court, under Presiding Judge Peter Bassenge, accepted the arguments of both the public prosecutor and the two court appointed experts, Günther Rilzel and Elisabeth Müller-Luckmann."

The sentence, however, fell short of the eight years demanded by the prosecution. The court also turned down the prosecution's motion that Marianne Bachmeier be taken into custody. She is to remain free pending the outcome of

the appeal. Judge Bassenge held that Marianne Bachmeier had been out of custody since last summer and that there was no reason to assume that she would attempt to leave the jurisdiction of the

Judge Bassenge: "The accused had been charged with murder and nevertheless made herself available for the ordeal of the long trial after her release from custody."; 1' 11' 11'

Some : murmurs . of . dissatisfaction

were heard from the public when the sentence they considered too lenient

was passed.

Dozens of people had been waiting in vain for hours in the cold and drizzly morning, hoping to get access to the overcrowded courtroom.

It was not until two hours after being sentenced that Marianne Bachmeier, who that day wore black pants and a plain white sweater, left the court building through a back door, accompanied by her lawyers and police.

Numerous press photographers and TV cameramen had gathered outside the court building, but were kept away from Mrs Bachmeier.

The court, in its summation, adopted the prosecution's argument that Marianne Bachmeier had shot Grabowski deliberately. But it saw no evidence that the killing was premeditated before 6 March 1981, the day it occurred.

That was the third day of the trial of Klaus Grabowski, who was accused of having strangled Anna Bachmeier.

"It was on that day that Marianne Bachmeier decided to kill Grabowski. The decision was made before she saw him in the courtroom," Judge Bassenge

Substantiated by the statements of Marianne Bachmeler and witnesses, the court reconstructed the shooting as follows: Before that day's court proceedings in the Grabowski case began, Marianne Bachmeier overheard in a corridor that Grabowski intended to slander her dead daughter and herself in the courtroom. She was carrying a loaded pistol in her handbag, and it was at that

point — before laying eyes on Grabowski — that she cocked the weapon. Without a moment's hesitation, she later fired eight shots at Grabowski.

"The shots were fired immediately after she entered the courtroom - with great concentration, as evidenced by their being dead on target," Judge Bassenge said.

The court did not accept Marianne Bachmeier's subsequent explanation that it was not until she saw Grabowski's broad back that she decided to kill him in a sort of emotional frenzy.

The court held that this was contrary to the statement she herself - as a witness at the time — made to a judge immediately after she had shot Grabowski. She told the judge: "I wanted to shoot him in the face."

Seen objectively, the court held, Grabowski was unsuspecting and defenceless at the time of the shooting. But subjectively this was not so. "It has not been proven that the accused (Bachmeier) was aware of the victim's being unsuspecting and defenceless."

The court thus went along with the experts' opinion and the prosecution's line of argument.

Immediately before the shooting, Marianne Bachmeier had looked at a photograph of her daughter which so heightened her frenzied state of mind that she acted without being aware of the victim's defencelessness.

The court ruled that the accused was fully accountable for her action. But a number of mitigating circumstances wère taken into account.

Judge Bassenge: "Grabowski had strangled Anna, the person who wils closest to Marianne Bachmeler, whose life had been marked by a series of dis-

The court's actions made it clear that mistakes made by the Judiciary in the Grabowski case were not to be swept under the carpet. In fact, many of these mistakes were listed among the mitigatMODERN LIVING

A new soft approach to first-time shoplifters



money runs out, many a young

of rock music has a dip into the

ed shelves and wanders off with the

at then often happens is some-

There's trouble with the parents, the

his is partly due to the tendency

t number hidden beneath his coat.

Marlanne Bachmeler . . . shot meg the shoplifter never really thought sex offender eight times, But: the store detective calls the poli-

ng circumstances in the county of and, finally, a summons to aption in the Bachmeler case.

Among them was the present whole business can turn a lease from prison of the six lighter into a juvenile delinquent. Grabowski, inadequate check, though this typical first crime need by the Schleswig-Holstein judic necessarily signify a departure from the fact that no expert opinion diraight and narrow. tained before Grabowski withis at least is the opinion of crimi-hormone treatment for his sensing edits. A private initiative in Montion.

"Anna would not have been taking interest in such cases and had these mistakes not here are now published its first report.

had these mistakes not been an flow published its first report.
court stated unequivocally limite project, which is called "Stop",

no reason to drop the charge financially backed by the North-Bachmeier.

Judge Bassenge told Manuar provides the culprit with a second meier exactly how much of her fice of avoiding punishment. she was likely to have to so it the chairman of "Stop," Gerd and-a-half years that she spenial interesting the condition of the conditi would thus have to serve two defere the project took off the years.

Dieter off office in Mönchengladbach

Kulner Stadt-Angeless 18 and drop criminal proceedings in any

nogotiating the release of the hostages held in Tehran a con

But his assignments as a survey about behaviour and envoy also had their shady six bling machines cannot be published the many arms deals he is said to of a temporary court injunction clinched. Tabatabai, who went that of the gambling industry. The versity in Germany, is married by was compiled by a psychologist, man.

The court showed itself am this time he has a lucky streak: the and gratifyingly independent of the lights up and out comes a which seems to have been put didful of coins.

But there is no getting away in the coins back into the slot at fact that the court's determined it keep on playing until I run out of diplomatic turbulence, diplomatic tu

pens", he confesses. le tries to keep his visits to the smuprevent this. The means they use not always successful: "It's like a be compatible with German is this is no isolated case of real are they in this case?

(Deutsches Allgemeines Some Whard Meyer in his thesis on

between the project group and the au-

The police agree to get in touch with the youth welfare department first before taking up criminal proceedings.

The public prosecutors then wait one months for a report by the group on whether the young person in question is "actively repentant" or whether criminal proceedings should be continued. In 109 out of 139 cases, the advice

centre recommended exemption from criminal punishment. Half of these recommendations were accepted.

The idea behind the project was brought over to Germany from the United States by the criminologist Kirchhoff.

He then managed to find 14 volunteers willing to work on an honorary basis, whom he trained for the job during evening courses.

Their main task is to discuss the matter with the parents so as to discover any educational measures which may

As Kirchhoff points out, talking alone is not enough. The shoplifters must be encouraged to "atone" for their crime! — "just as a football player who has committed a foul offers his fellowplayer his hand in friendship."

The shoplifter should be taken along to the scene of the crime to talk to the shop assistants, who very often have to pay for the stolen goods themselves.

"The young shoplifter suddenly realises that he is not dealing with an anonymous department store but with real people," says Kirchhoff.

This is something a shoplister never gives much thought to. The project group advisory team also talks to the managers so as to clear up the impression that this is just an attempt to give youngsters a "free hand", at least first-

The Mönchengladbach project was supported by DM261,000 provided by the Jugendmarke foundation. This money is intended to last at least three

In the meantime, plans have been considered to extend this system to youngsters caught driving without a licence or fare dodgers.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 March 1983)

Homeless are getting younger

West Germany's homeless are be-coming younger and younger each year. The average age has dropped by 15 years over the past few years to between 25 and 30. One in twenty 'gentlemen of the road" is in fact a "lady," usually girls who are still mi-

Professor Ursula Adams, who lectures juvenile and family law at the Catholic Fachhochschule in Paderborn, has for some time been assessing the situation of the homeless.

This winter, over 100,000 men and women have had nowhere to live. In statistical terms, there was only one place to sleep for five homeless.

About a dozen self-help: groups in Germany are trying to prevent people from freezing to death by using secondhand army sleeping-bags.

Eighty per cent of those with no fixed abode are of lower-class origin, says Professor Adams; the first social group to feel the pinch in times of recession. She referred to the dropping age

trend as "a completely new phenomenon." Welfare associations just cannot deal with the situation any longer.

What is urgently needed are citizen's aid activities to provide not only sleeping-bags but also places to sleep, food and clothing.

stop gambling or to avoid going into

Taking up the case example of a 45

"I started playing the machines about

12 years ago," says the teacher, "It was

only now and again to begin with and

then more and more regularly. After a

while, I became really hooked. Up to

rious amusement halls and I've got

help group - all from different social

strata - had trouble with money and

subsequently problems with the family

heavy debts."

10, I've lost at least DM150,000 in va-

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 3 March 1983)

ly secondary importance". GEMA would have to prove copyfered from the same problems as other addiction groups: loss of control after

right in each individual case, an expensive and most complicated task. beginning to gamble and the inability to.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 24 February 1983)

Drink causes

problems at work

A bout five per cent of all employees in Germany suffer from alcohol-reisted illnesses.

The head office of the Anti-Addicon Association in Hamburg, says that special advisory groups should be set up in large and medium-sized firms, because of increasing problems involving elcohol and work.

There has not yet been sufficient research on whether this is due to increased mechanication and monotonous work conditions.

According to the association, the per capita alcohol consumption figure is the

fourth highest in the world. In 1981, statistics reveal that every West German citizen drank about 12.4

litres of pure alcohol, Men are three times as likely to have problems as women.

(General-Antelger Bonst, 3 March 1983)

Sea fungus Continued from page 13 minut

for limited periods only. Kept at room temperature they need a great deal of costly and labour intensive care which has forced the institute to destroy some of its cultures; all and protection

But the institute was recently commissioned to carry out research into the possibility of deep freeze storage of ma-

The project, which is subsidised by Bonn, is being carried out in cooperation with the Society for Blotechnologi-'cat' Research and the German Collecflon' of Microorganisms' (DSM) of

The researchers are now testing the most economical conservation methods by freezing fungi cultures at temperatilres of -180°C. To this end, the Bremerhillven Instituto as been equipped with a deep freeze installation operating on it-

It is only flatural that the metabolism of the fungi stops at this temperature, lenabling the researchers to fall back on unchangeable comparative material that cun be kept in small ampules, l'oitial re-

sults are encouraging.

Sults are encouraging.

What is still lacking is a secured future for the Bremerhaven collection. One solution would be to transfer the whole culture collection to DSM in a frozen State Join Freyenhagen (Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 March 1983)

A former Iranian diplomat who is related by marriage to Ayatolian Khomeini has been sentenced to three years fail by a Düsseldorf court on an oplum smuggling charge, Sadegh Tabatabai, 39, was however not present to hear the decision. He had flown back to Iran.

Πτο a diplomat always a diplomat?
The dispute before a Düsseldorf court over whether the Iranian citizen Sadegh Tabatabal, 39, (who is charged with smuggling several pounds of oplum into Germany) enjoys diplomatic immunity and is therefore safe from prosecution is increasingly resembling a farce. But drug smuggling is too serious a matter to be seen in a farcical light.

The affair goes back to 8 January when Tabatabel arrived at Dusseldorf airport carrying 11.7 kilos of opium in his luggage. He had no plausible explanation for the optimi except to say that it was an old Persian home remedy for

The excuse was so thin as to suggest that he either couldn't think of a belter ohe or that he thought very little of the intelligence of German customs offi-

Tabatabai was taken into custody and

But the Bonn Foreign Office was uneasy about the affair and went to great lengths to get its old acquaintance

Tabatabai not only has excellent contacts with German politicians and dipdeeds to his oredit. It offers of good

Diplomat on drug charge flees back to Iran



Sadegh Tabatabal ... excellent confacis, (Photo: dpa)

When Ayatolish Khomeini came to power, Tabatabal not only became government spokesman and deputy prime minister of Iran but also wielded great influence with the Ayatollah, He was a frequent visitor to Bonn where he played a major role in

German Ironian relations, negotiating

primarily with Hans-Jürgen Was aspects priority to those of edu-ki and Foreign Minister Hans-bank principles.

Genscher.

Tabatabai was also instrument there has been a special agreement

All this, however, is just garden the Dusseldorf court. For July

Strauss, Tabatabai is simply a me eventy marks!" retorts a 29 year-old has smuggled opium into the elect from Hanover when asked and thus run afoul of the law.

The assurances he subsequed has the last one-and-a-half hours. Celved from the Bonn Foreign is a same without taking his eyes and from Tehran that Tabatabais his revolving figures and symbols a mission as a special envoy is the light up in the gambling machine judge unimpressed.

It is up to the German diploment hall down to once a week, but

his is the conclusion of psychologist Sien Mary

Partial ban on gambling addiction study

Pathological Game of Chance," which he has completed for the University of Göttingen.

try from the district court in Cologne, only certain sections of the thesis are.

playing the gambling game is more than just passing the time. According to Meyer's calculations,

DM800m in 1980, well above the DM500m raked in by the casinos. 500,000 of the seven million or so West

tegorised as "addicts".

three years of research in Göttingen, using survey questionnaires to analyse a total of 400 "chronic gamblers". Meyer confirmed that this group suf-

year-old secondary-school teacher, who a few months back set up a gambler's solf-help group in Lübeck, Meyer points out some of the economic, social and psychological consequences.

Due to a temporary injunction ob-tained by the sambling machine indus-

However, even they make it clear that: the industry pocketed gross earnings of

Meyer is convinced that at least Germans who use the 160,000 gambling machines in West Germany must be ca-

After his marriage broke up - according to Meyer another result of the gambling addiction - he was no longer able to keep away from the machines after school was over.
The five other members of his self-

He reached this conclusion after

This teacher now hopes that the group will provide him with the support he needs to help free himself from his ruinous vice.

and their closest friends.

